Bronze no Tenshi

Chiho Saito

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STORM IN HEAVEN
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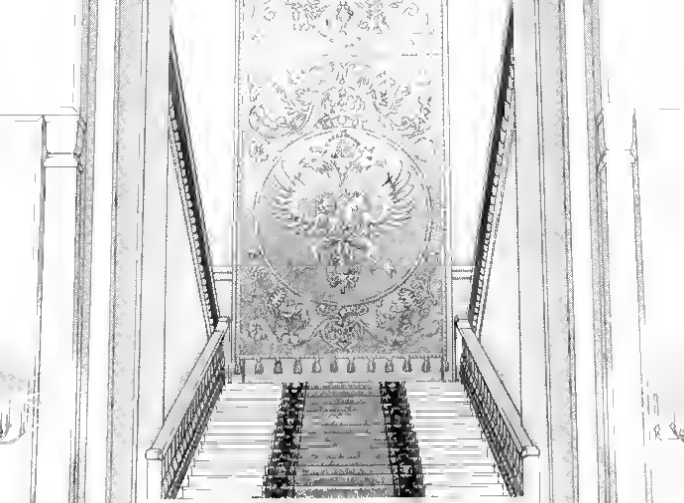
Bronze no Tenshi 2

Saito Chiho

Flower Comics



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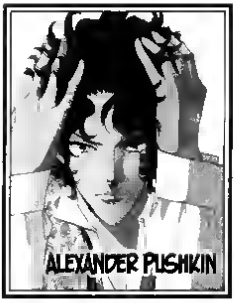
Characters & Story So Far

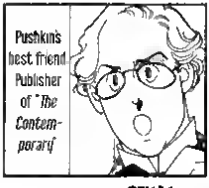
19th century Russia. Pushkin, a genius poet who's known in high society for his freely written works, falls in love with a beautiful maiden, Natalia. Although Natalia comes from a noble family, her household is very poor, owing huge debts. To find a wealthy man to marry Natalia, her mother sends her off to numerous parties, and she meets Pushkin. Although Natalia refuses Pushkin, her feelings begin to change after Pushkin tries numerous times to marry her. Finally, Natalia's mother consents to the marriage but ...?!



A young poet whose works have been admired by many. For this the government disapproves of him

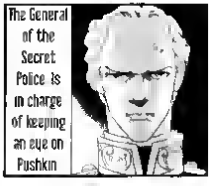
The daughter of a poor noble family. Although she knows that she has to marry a wealthy man she is still uncertain of Pushkin

〈 THE GONCHAROV FAMILY 〉

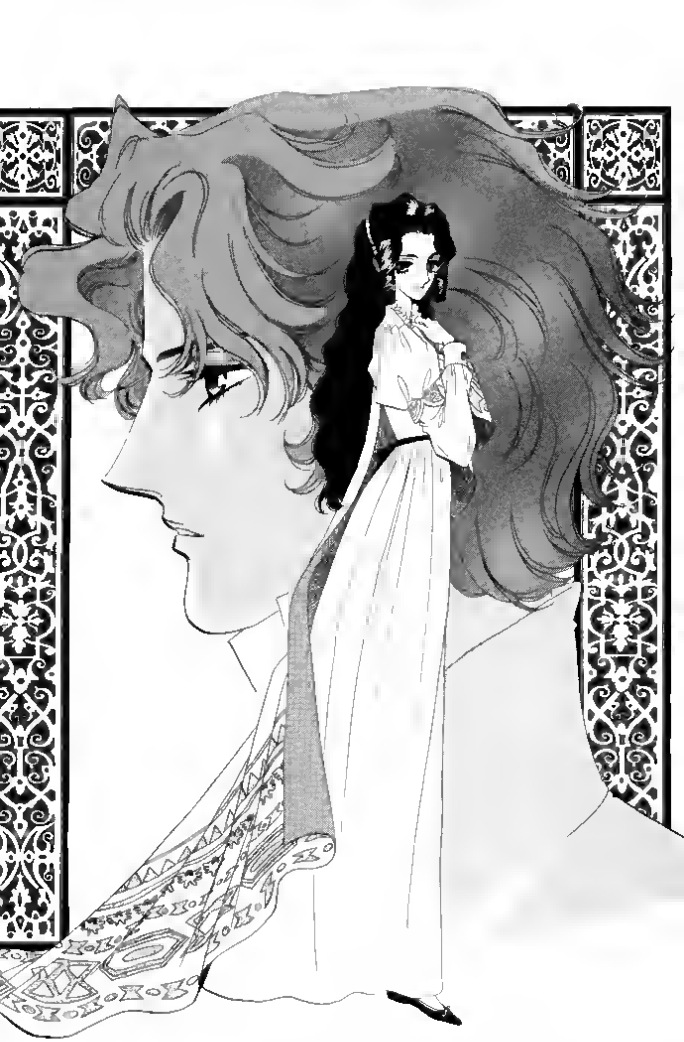


DELVIG

KING NICHOLAS THE FIRST (TSAR)



BENKENDORF



Vol. 5 Tatyana

MY
FUTURE
HAS
BEEN
DECIDED

MR. PUSHKIN.
FLINCH
MR... MR PUSHKIN?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THE DAY I COULD CALL YOU MY FIANCE HAS COME!
YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW HOW LOUDLY MY HEART— IS BEATING RIGHT NOW, DO YOU?

WHAT...?
MY ANGEL,
I LOVE YOU
IF I WERE THE ONE THAT MR PUSHKIN LOVED...
I'D HAVE BEEN HAPPIER
I'M SO ENVIOUS OF NATALIA
OH...
WHAT IS IT, ALEXANDRA?
BDMP BDMP
How cute!
HUG

STOP THAT RIGHT THIS INSTANT!

MOTHER
EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE BEEN ENGAGED,
NATALIA IS ONLY SIXTEEN
SHE'S STILL A CHILD
PLEASE WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
HUGGING AND KISSING HER IS SOMETHING FOR AFTER YOU'RE MARRIED
MR PUSHKIN
PLEASE, MOTHER!
What!
"MOTHER"?
UHMM, LADY GONCHAROV,
I WANT TO HAVE THE WEDDING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
LIKE NEXT MONTH!
TWITCH
SIGH
MY... DREAM WAS TO MARRY MY SWEET NATALIA TO A RICH NOBLE AND HAVE A SPLENDID BRIDE READY
BUT...

ACTUALLY,
THE MONEY THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SET ASIDE FOR HER MARRIAGE HAS ALL BEEN USED UP.
THAT FAMILY IS REALLY POOR RIGHT NOW
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR THEIR PART OF THE WEDDING PREPARATIONS AS WELL?!
TWELVE THOUSAND RUBLES?!
ON TOP OF THAT, WITHOUT ANY LAND THEY CAN'T COLLECT ANY EARNINGS
THE BRIDE'S SIDE HAS TO PAY FOR DRESSES TABLEWARE, CARRIAGES, SERVANTS AND MORE
THAT'S RIGHT,
WHAT IS IT, DEVIL?*
CRICKET!*

*The nicknames they had during their college years.

CLACK
WAKE UP!
DO YOU WANT TO BECOME FISH BAIT, CRICKET?!
LADY GONCHAROV IS ONLY TESTING YOU! SHE HAS NO INTENTION OF GIVING UP HER DAUGHTER TO YOU!
ALL THEY WANT TO DO IS TAKE ALL YOUR MONEY...
AND LEAVE YOU WITH NOTHING!
CLACK
VYAZEMSKY!
IF YOU WANT ME TO BE YOUR SECOND IN A DUEL, ASK SOMEONE ELSE!
VYAZEMSKY
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PUSHKIN'S SECOND, AND I INTEND TO KEEP IT THAT WAY!

IF IT'S FOR HER, I'LL DO ANYTHING...
SELL MY POEMS MY WRITINGS, ANYTHING
I STILL WANT TO MARRY NATALIA.
BUT EVEN SO...
I KNOW ALL THAT
I WROTE A LETTER TO MY PARENTS.
I ASKED FOR MY INHERITANCE WITH 200 FARMERS I'LL HAVE A SOLID FOUR THOUSAND RUBLES ANNUALLY
I'LL ALSO TAKE OUT A LOAN
TOMORROW I'LL GO TO ST PETERSBURG WITH MY NEW WORK
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME
THE ENGAGE-MENT IS ONLY A TESTING PERIOD?

SO MOTHER TOLD ME TO NOT LET MY GUARD DOWN
SHE SAID THAT NOW
WE'LL LEARN NOW SERIOUS MR PUSHKIN REALLY IS
MOTHER AND NATALIA ARE DOING ALL THIS FOR OUR FAMILY!
ARE YOU SURE, NATALIA?!
ARE YOU REALLY NOT GOING TO MARRY HIM IF HE DOESN'T MAKE ENOUGH MONEY?!
THAT'S SO MEAN
I FEEL SORRY FOR MR PUSHKIN
HE'S WORKING SO HARD AND YOU'RE
DON'T YOU FEEL BAD FOR HIM?
SAY SOMETHING, NATALIA!

LADY NATALIA GONCHAROV
I HEARD THE SHE FINALLY GOT ENGAGED WITH PUSHKIN
SHE LOOKS BEAUTIFUL AS ALWAYS,
BUT SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE TOO HAPPY.
I HAVEN'T SEEN PUSHKIN LATELY
HE'S TOO BUSY TRYING TO RAISE MONEY
THAT IDIOT!
IT'S NOT LIKE HIM.
MR VYAZEMSKY DOESN'T SEEM TOO HAPPY WITH HIS FRIEND'S DECISION
I'M SO WORRIED
THEY SAY THAT A GENIUS LOSES HIS BRILLIANCE ONCE HE OBTAINS HAPPINESS
WHY IS THAT, LADY HITROVA?
THE STARVING AND UNEASY
THOSE WHO ARE DISSATISFIED WITH THE CURRENT STATE OF THINGS ARE THE ONES WHO WRITE THE GREATEST WORKS OF FICTION
THE SUDDEN HAPPINESS OF MARRIAGE WILL MAKE HIM SATISFIED WITH THE WORLD,
WHICH IS HARDLY CONDUCIVE TO GREATNESS, WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?
BUT THEN
WHAT HAPPENS IF HE GROWS LESS SATISFIED UPON BEING MARRIED?
HA HA HA
THAT'S RIGHT!

AFTER MARRYING SUCH A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN
THERE IS NO WAY THAT PUSHKIN WOULDN'T FEEL BLISS
AND THAT
I FEAR, WILL BE THE DEATH OF A GENIUS
OH NO, THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TODAY, LADY HITROVA
NATALIA GONCHAROV?
ARE YOU TIRED,
WRITING LETTERS TO HIM EVERY DAY...
DOING LITTLE CHORES FOR HIM,
LETTING HIM BORROW BOOKS
OR A MOTHERLY LOVER?
OR PERHAPS MORE OF A LOVING MOTHER?
THAT WOMAN IS ONE OF PUSHKIN'S GREATEST FANS
TRUE ENOUGH
BORN OUT OF JEALOUSY?
ISN'T WHAT LADY HITROVA IS SAYING
HMPH!

SQUISHED
MAY I SIT HERE?
OH YES
YOU HAVE SUCH BEAUTIFUL SKIN
PUMP
I CAN TRULY SEE WHY HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN YOU
I WISH FOR PUSHKIN'S HAPPINESS FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART
THAT MAN IS THE GENIUS WHO, THROUGH HIS DEVOTION TO FRENCH STYLE, TRIGGERED A REVOLUTION IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE

ALL OF US HERE
ARE WISHING YOU TWO THE BEST...
YOU SEE...

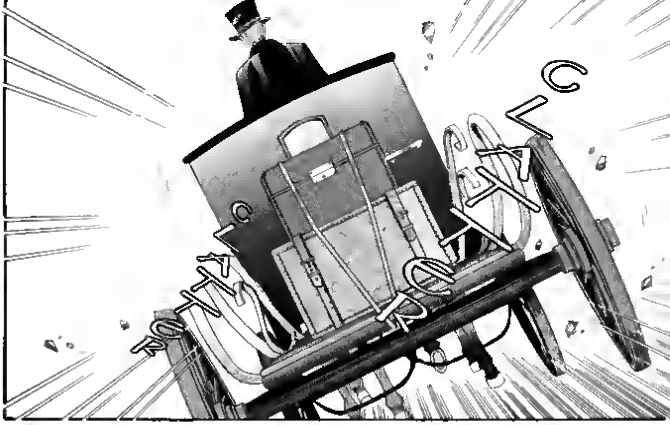
AMALIA, ELIZA, ANNA,
SOFIA, VERA, CALYPSO,
VAR-VARA, OLGA
AND
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANY-MORE
YES, I DO!
DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW SURPRISED I WAS...
WHEN ALL YOUR EXES APPEAR-ED AT THE PARTY, ONE AFTER ANOT-HER!

YOU ALSO DON'T NEED TO SAY THIS IN FRONT OF NATALIA
LAST NIGHT ...
SHE WAS INTRODUCED TO FOUR OF YOUR FORMER GIRLFRIENDS!
AS WELL AS THE WOMAN WHO'S BEEN 'TAKING CARE' OF YOU, LADY HITROVA!
WHEN YOU'VE COURTED THAT MANY PEOPLE OPENLY IN SOCIETY,
I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE HOW MANY MORE YOU'VE COURTED SECRETLY!
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?!
THEY'RE ALL IN THE PAST!
CAN'T YOU FORGIVE MY YOUTH AND NAIV-ETY?!
WHEN DID I SAY YOU COULD SPEAK TO HER SO FAMILIARLY?!
IS THAT TRUE, NAT-ALIA?
PLEASE TELL ME... WHAT THEY SAID TO YOU!

I WANT TO MARRY NATALIA, NOT YOU!
LET ME TALK TO HER!
STOP!
DON'T GET ANY CLOSER TO MY DEAR NATALIA!
YOU DIDN'T DENY ANYTHING SHE SAID.
SO PLEASE TELL ME!
I WON'T DENY THE TRUTH,
BUT THERE WERE LIES MIXED IN!
ABOUT LAST NIGHT
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING NATALIA?!
YOU PLAY-ER!
PAUPER!
ATHE-IST!
SWK

OH MY YOU'RE HIS FIANCE AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW?
PUSHKIN HAS A WEAKNESS FOR WOMEN WITH FAIR SKIN AND SMALL FEET
I CAN REMEMBER HIM BEING SO PASSION-ATE...
YOU'VE HAD SO MANY LOVERS
AND YOU NEVER HAD ANY OF THEM FOR LONG!
HOW CAN I BE! 'EVE, SO QUICKLY, A VOW OF LOVE FROM A MAN LIKE YOU?!

I DIDN'T KNOW
THAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING AT ME
IN THAT LIGHT
I...
JUST THOUGHT THAT BY MARRYING YOU,
I WOULD BE ABLE TO CHANGE MYSELF
I THOUGHT THAT WITH YOU, I COULD WITHSTAND ANYTHING
BUT...
TOMORROW I'M LEAVING FOR BOLDINO VILLAGE
IF I DON'T COMPLETE THE PAPERWORK FOR MY INHERITANCE... I WON'T HAVE THAT INCOME...



THAT A MAN WHO'D LIVED HIS LIFE LIKE ME WOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE A NORMAL MARRIAGE

IT WAS A MISTAKE FOR ME TO THINK

I JUST HEARD FROM THE CHIEF AT THE TRAIN STATION
IT'S TERRIBLE!
THAT IN THE COUNTY YOU'RE HEADED TO, NIZHNY NOVGOROD,
SIR!
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO!
LET'S TURN BACK IMMEDIATELY!
NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT
WHAT?!
CHOLERA IS SPREADING
EVERYONE IS STAYING AWAY FROM THERE
CHOLERA?!
I DON'T WANT TO RETURN TO MOSCOW
TAKE ME TO BOLDINO VILLAGE
Y... YES SIR!
CRACK

WHO CARES IF I DIE FROM CHOLERA?
I DON'T HAVE A FUTURE ANYWAY!
Moscow
NATALIA, DON'T SULK
IT'S UNBECOMING
LISTEN WELL, NATALIA.
I DIDN'T WANT TO COME TO THE PARTY TONIGHT

YOUR ENGAGEMENT WITH PUSHKIN IS OFF.
BUT THAT'S NOTHING TO CRY OVER
IF HE'S LIKE THAT NOW, I CAN'T THINK OF WHAT HE'LL BE LIKE AFTER GETTING MARRIED.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT,
BARON MANSUROV SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO YOU
THAT MAN IS VERY RICH AND STILL SINGLE
GO SEE HIM
NATALIA?
HURRY!
MOTHER,
PLEASE STOP TALKING ABOUT MONEY
THE MORE YOU TALK ABOUT MONEY
THE MORE I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING SOLD OFF TO SOME RICH MAN

THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD,
NATALIA

NO...
GO SEE HIM AT ONCE!
NATALIA?!

YOU LEFT HER THERE AND CAME HOME?!
NATALIA ...
AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF GETTING SLAPPED?!
I'M FED UP WITH ALL OF THIS!
NATALIA,
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, THEN?
THOSE... ARE THE EXACT SAME WORDS THAT MR. PUSHKIN SAID BEFORE HE LEFT.
I'M THE ONE GETTING MARRIED, NOT HER!
COURTING THE PEOPLE SHE LIKES...
DOING WHAT MOTHER TELLS ME TO DO,
FOR HURTING MR. PUSHKIN BY WHAT I SAID
I WANT TO APOLOGIZE
HOW CAN I BELIEVE, SO QUICKLY, A VOW OF LOVE FROM A MAN LIKE YOU?!

Boldino Village
I LIKE THE COUN-TRY SIDE
IT CALMS ME
NATURE
AND THE PEOPLE

EVEN IF IT DOES...
EVEN IF THE SPREAD OF CHOLERA REACHES HERE...
SIR, THE ROAD 30 MILES AWAY IS ALREADY CLOSED DUE TO THE CHOLERA OUTBREAK.
ONLY LETTERS CAN GET THROUGH.
This is today's mail.
THEN, EVEN IF I GET THE PAPERWORK DONE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE FOR A WHILE.
NO MATTER.
SLAM!
SIR, YOU SHOULDN'T GO OUTSIDE OFTEN...

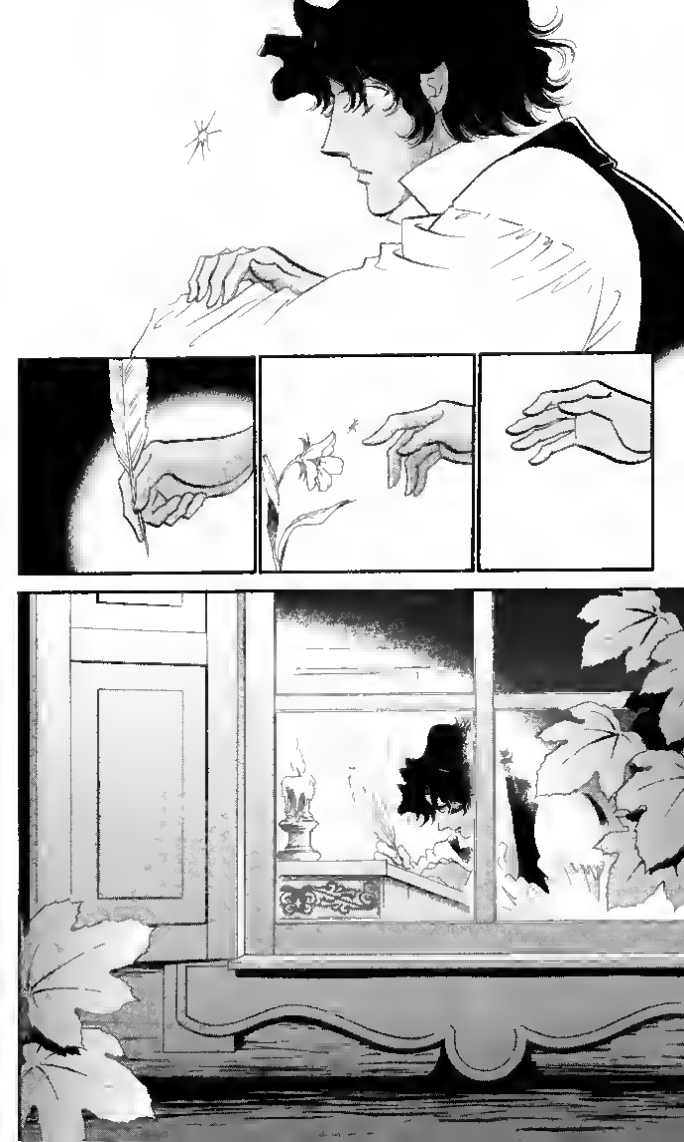
Mr. Pushkin,
My mother has forbidden me from communicating with you, but with my sisters' help, I was able to send this letter.
Even without my mother's consent, even without any preparations,
I will marry you.
Natalia Nikolaevna Goncharov

NATALIA
LOVES ME!

WHO FASHIONED THIS WORLD,
OH GODS

YOUR
RUSSIA IS
BEAUTIFUL!

PAIN AND HAPPINESS BOTH .
I LOVE EVERYTHING THIS RUSSIA HAS GIVEN ME!



THE VERSES KEEP COMING TO ME
FREED FROM MY ANXIETY,
WITH YOUR FEELINGS INSIDE OF IT
FROM MY FINGERS TO THE PEN... AND FROM THE PEN TO THE PAPER.
THE WORDS KEEP FLOWING.
FILLED WITH INSPIRATION.
NOW,
IT'S TIME TO SET OFF.

"Mozart and Salieri,"

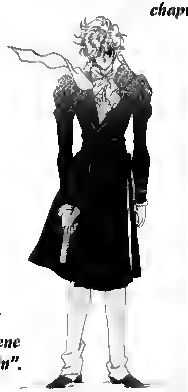
"The Rock Flower,"

"The Bronze Horseman,"

"The Feast During the Plague,"

Around 30 poems...

The final chapter...



Of "Eugene Onegin".

As well as...

My Dearest Friend, Baron Delvig.

Cut off by the Cholera quarantine, I'm stranded in Boldino, which has become an island amidst the chaos.

Here, I'm writing more than I ever have before.

Maybe the fear of death arriving here soon is rushing me.

THREE YEARS LATER.
IN MOSCOW

ONEGIN SETS OUT AIMLESSLY ON A WANDERING TRIP.
AFTER KILLING HIS BEST FRIEND IN A DUEL....

TATYANA, A COMMON WOMAN IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE,
IS BEWITCHED BY HIM AND FALLS IN LOVE.

ONEGIN CARELESSLY SPURNS... THE LOVE LETTER THAT THE INNOCENT WOMAN TIMIDLY WROTE HIM.
TATYANA THREW AWAY HER INNOCENT HEART ALONG WITH HER BELOVED FOREST AND BOOKS AND DISAPPEARED

THERE STOOD A CHANGED TATYANA,
AS ELEGANT AND BEAUTIFUL AS A GODDESS
A CLEVER, UNAPPROACHABLE DUCHESS,
WITH AN OVERWHELMING SENSE OF DIGNITY
THERE WERE STILL TRACES OF THE TIMID YOUNG WOMAN
WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT INSIDE THIS QUEEN OF THE EVENING...

ONEGIN COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HER
THIS TIME
IT WAS ONEGIN WHO FELL DESPERATELY IN LOVE...
HE RECEIVED NO ANSWER TO THE COUNTLESS LOVE LETTERS HE SENT TO HER.
AND SO...
HE FINALLY PUSHED OPEN THE FORBIDDEN DOOR.

THERE WAS TATYANA, WITH ONEGIN'S LETTER IN HER HAND
WITHOUT WORDS, ONEGIN UNDERSTOOD TATYANA'S FEELINGS
THE TATYANA HE ONCE KNEW WAS THERE

"I WEEP NOW,

BUT IF YOUR FORMER TATYANA YOU HAVE STILL NOT FORGOTTEN EVEN NOW, THEN KNOW THIS

MY STATUS IN GLITTERING SOCIETY'S WHIRL MY MODERN HOME AND EVENING PARTIES,

I WOULD RENOUNCE THEM ALL FOR A SHELF OF BOOKS OR A RAGGED GARDEN AND ALL THOSE PLACES WHERE LONG AGO,

ONEGIN, I FIRST SET MY EYES ON YOU."

"BUT NOW, THE BOOK OF FATE IS FIRMLY SHUT,

MY MOTHER WITH HER TEARS OF ENTREATY

PRAYED ME TO MARRY... AND SO I MARRIED.

I BESEECH YOU, GO."

"I LOVE YOU. WHY SHOULD I DECEIVE YOU?
BUT I AM GIVEN TO ANOTHER NOW,
AND I WILL ETERNALLY KEEP MY VOW."

"YET HAPPINESS SEEMED SO POSSIBLE...SO NEAR AT HAND!"

I WILL
GRASP MY
HAPPINESS

I WANT TO SEE NATALIA!
FAREWELL TO THE DAYS WHEN I DROWNED IN DREAMS AND ROMANCE!
I WILL ...
COMMIT MYSELF TO MY ONE AND ONLY ANGEL!

Bronze no Tenshi

Chiho Saito

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STORM IN HEAVEN
STORMINHEAVEN.NET

Vol.6 Marriage

The "July Revolution" took place in France.
July 1830
Charles X abdicated the throne, and the line of Bourbon Kings was at last ended
Owing to the serf s revolt in Paris.
After Napoleon's fall, France had returned to the control of the Bourbon Government, however...

The Russian Government also strengthened its vigilance.
Tsar Nicholas
The effects were felt throughout Europe.
BALTIC SEA
NORTH SEA
HOLLAND
PRUSSIA
POLISH REPUBLIC
BELGIUM
UNDEPEN DENCE
FRANCE
SWITZER LAND
AUSTRIA
France was the first European country to take the first step towards Democracy.
The newly elected Louis-Philipe
The General of the Tsar's Secret Police, Benkendorf.
YOUR NEWSPAPER, THE CONTEMPORARY, HAS BEEN BANNED. DELVIG,
During all this,
Delvig wrote an article in "The Contemporary" listing citizens who had fallen in the July Revolution.

DO YOU HEAR?!
I'LL SEND YOU, VYAZEMSKY, AND PUSHKIN...
TO THE LABOR CAMPS IN SIBERIA!
WA... WAIT!
SLAM
SLAM
DONGG
DONGG
DONGG
February 18 1831
Moscow, Church of the Assension
PUSHKIN HIMSELF IS GETTING MARRIED!
THEY'RE GETTING MARRIED!

I WONDER WHEN THE WEDDING'S GOING TO START.
THE BRIDE'S CARRIAGE IS RUNNING LATE.
WHY DON'T THEY JUST GIVE UP!
THIS MARRIAGE KEEPS GETTING POSTPONED AGAIN AND AGAIN.
HE HE HE
THAT'S SO MEAN!
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
BACK UP! BACK UP!
LET THE CARRIAGES GET THROUGH!
I'VE GIVEN PUSHKIN A TWO-STORY MANSION OF MINE ON ALBERT STREET FOR HIS NEW HOME.
AS EXPECTED FROM YOU, LADY HITROVA.
I'LL BET YOU... THIS MARRIAGE WON'T LAST!
I'LL SECOND THAT!
I HEARD THAT THIS MORNING LADY GONCHAROV WANTED TO POSTPONE THE MARRIAGE AGAIN SINCE THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR A CARRIAGE
SUCH RUMORS
STILL, PUSHKIN MUST BE ANNOYED AT ALL THE OSTENTATIOUS REQUESTS FROM THE BRIDE'S FAMILY

VERA FEDOROVNA VYAZEMSKAYA.
YOU'RE AS BEAUTIFUL AS ALWAYS.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
MR. TOLSTOY,
VYAZEMSKY!
DON'T LOOK SO GLUM ON YOUR FRIEND'S WEDDING DAY.
HENKENDORF IS HERE.
OVER THERE!
HE HAS THE GUTS TO SHOW HIS FACE HERE!
DUKE VYAZEMSKY!

WHAT HAPPENED TO DELVIG . WAS ALL HIS FAULT!
MY DEAR
AS COUNT TOL-STOY SAYS,
WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT THESE THINGS AT PUSHKIN'S WEDDING.
I KNOW
EVEN NOW,
HE'S FEELING DOWN OVER WHAT HAPPENED

THEY CAN'T START THE WEDDING WITHOUT THE BRIDE
IT'S OKAY
IT'S MOTHER'S FAULT WE'RE THIS LATE! SHE HELD US UP!
QUICK-LY!
NATALIA! YOUR VEIL IS STUCK!
THE BRIDE HAS COME!
LET THE WEDDING BEGIN!
RUSTLE
OH!
AH!
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?
NATALIA.
YOU TRULY ARE AN ANGEL.

SHE LOOKS LIKE AN ANGEL SCULPTED FROM BRONZE
HOW BEAUTIFUL

OH!
EH?
NOW THE EXCHANGE OF RINGS
SSSS
ISAAC, REJOICE
THESE TWO SHALL NOW BECOME ONE
THIS GREAT MYSTERY—
THE CAND-LE—
NRMP
AN ILL OMEN.

AM I REALLY GOING TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE
WITH THIS MAN?

SOMETHING HAS ENDED.
AND SOMETHING NEW IS STARTING TO UNFOLD.
THIS IS MY FIRST STEP TOWARDS MY NEW DESTINY.

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THIS...
WIFE TO HUSBAND,
HUSBAND TO WIFE,
YOU SHALL REMAIN FAITHFUL...
I HAVE NO REGRETS

ABOUT MY FATE.
YOU MAY NOW KISS

THE CEREMONY HAS ENDED!
THE POET AND HIS WIFE HAVE COME OUT!
NATALIA! GIVE ME ONE LAST KISS BEFORE YOU LEAVE!
NOT HERE
MOTHER
NATALIA!
BUT I NO LONGER WANT TO FOLLOW EVERYTHING YOU SAY
I'M SORRY MOTHER!
CLATTER
CLATTER
SNAP

WE'RE HERE!
THIS IS OUR NEW HOME!
SNORT
ARE YOU MR ALEXANDER PUSHKIN?
UMM
I'M
NICOLAI GOGOL.
I WAS SENT FROM ST PETERSBURG BY THE LATE DELVIG
I'm originally from Ukraine
A NEW WRITER!
OH
WAIT!
THIS IS HOW A BRIDE SHOULD ENTER HER NEW HOME

I ONLY MET HIM ONCE MYSELF
BUT HE INTRODUCED ME TO MANY OTHER FAMOUS WRITERS
I was really surprised!
I THINK HE REALLY LIKED ME
I must have talent right?
THANKS TO HIM, I'LL BE STARTING A POSITION AS A HISTORY TEACHER NEXT MONTH
There must be something to me!
I'M IN HIS DEBT. SO I CAME TO MOSCOW TO LEARN
WELL, TODAY BEING WHAT IT IS, I DON'T THINK
SWIP
THE LATE DELVIG?
OH, WAS TODAY YOUR WEDDING?
SO YOU WOULD BE NADEZHDA?
He's Natalia.
DELVIG IS THE MAN I MET AT THE PARTY BEFORE, YOUR BEST FRIEND, RIGHT?
HE DIED?
Wow! It's the real Pushkin!
YES, HE DID
HE SUCCUMBED TO SICKNESS IN ST PETERSBURG A MONTH AGO
I'M SHOCKED AS WELL

BENKENDORF'S UNDERLINGS ARE STILL FOLLOWING ME
YES?
SINCE I'M A BIG FAN OF YOURS
MR. DELVIG GAVE ME SOMETHING ABOUT YOU!
THIS!
My! How rude!
COULD YOU GIVE THIS TO ME?
WHAT?!
BUT HE GAVE IT TO ME—
It was really hard getting it from him.
I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING ELSE IN RETURN
Really? Truly?

"IT DOESN'T CONCERN YOU."
IT DOESN'T
CONCERN YOU.
WHAT IS THAT?
MY BEAUTIFUL NATALIA...
I'M SORRY...
I FEEL BAD FOR BEING SO HAPPY RIGHT NOW...
WHEN IT'S ONLY BEEN A MONTH SINCE HE DIED

IT'S A SCRAP OF PAPER
IT WAS PART OF A POEM I WROTE FIVE YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS UNDER HOUSE ARREST IN MIKHAILOVSKOE VILLAGE
"UNDER THE CARESS OF THE MUSE, WE SPENT OUR YOUTHFUL DAYS SO VERY PEACEFULLY..."
I WROTE A FULL-LENGTH POEM BASED ON THAT AFTERWARDS
BACK THEN.
WHEN WE WERE AT LITSEI* IT WAS JUST DELVIG AND I, BEST FRIENDS
HE EVEN CAME FROM WAY OFF TO SEE ME, DESPITE THE RISKS
SINCE I'D BEEN ALONE FOR SO LONG AT TIMES LIKE THOSE I WEPT WITH JOY.
THAT'S WHEN I DREW OUT THIS SKETCH FOR HIM

*An elite school for aristocrats

HE WAS NICE, AND WOULD ALWAYS MAKE THE GIRLS HAPPY
ESPECIALLY THE YOUNGER ONE...
HE WAS LIKE LENSKY FROM MY "EUGENE ONEGIN"
WE'D HAVE A GREAT TIME TOGETHER, THE FOUR OF US
WHEN DELVIG CAME OVER, THE TWO GIRLS FROM NEXT DOOR WOULD ALSO VISIT.
NOT ONE THAT YOU MADE UP.
BACK THEN "ONEGIN" WAS A TRUE STORY,
"UNDER THE CARESS OF THE MUSE..."
LIKE ONEGIN, DID YOU CARE FOR THE OLDER ONE?
AND YOU, PUSHKIN ...
ARE YOUR LIPS...
AND THE ONLY THING THAT COULD KILL ME...
I NEVER SHOT AND KILLED MY BEST FRIEND...
HOW COULD IT BE...

MM...
...!
HE'S SO... FAMILIAR WITH THIS
.....
WAIT...
PLEASE TELL ME EVERY-THING!
NO!
PLEASE DON'T DECEIVE ME!

...AH!
MOLE
I'M NEITHER A SAINT NOR A HOLY MAN
YOU'RE ONLY EIGHTEEN. THERE'S QUITE A BIT I'D RATHER KEEP FROM YOU
BUT THAT
IT'S BECAUSE
ISN'T BECAUSE I DON'T TRUST YOU...
STOP...
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

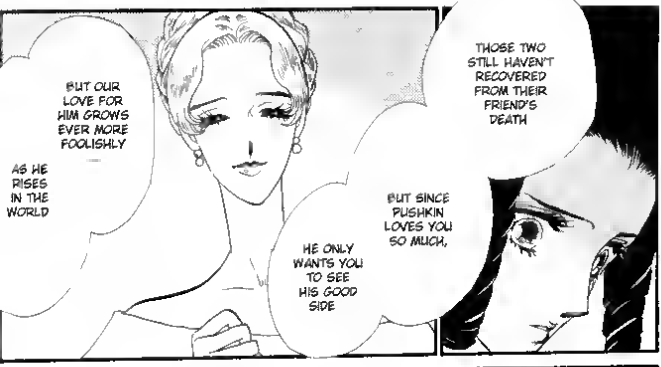
IT'S LIKE MY CRAZY FATHER!
PLEASE DON'T BE SO VIOLENT!
NO!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO
GO THAT FAR.

I'LL.... SLEEP ON THE SOFA...
CLACK
HE WAS...
SO INTENSE
FROM NOW ON...
CAN I LIVE WITH HIM LIKE THIS?
I ALREADY WANT TO GO HOME!

SLEIGH
GOOD MORNING
SHOCK
HUFF!
GOOD MORN-ING.
SILENCE
VER FEDOR-OVNA!
VY ZEM-SKY!
YOU'RE LOOKING HAPPY, CRICKET.
GOOD MORNING, PUSHKIN!
ARE WE INTER-RUPTING?

GRAB
VYA
CAN YOU TELL?
REALLY?
WHAT IS IT, VYAZEM-SKY?
BENKENDORF'S CARRIAGE IS PARKED RIGHT OUTSIDE
SINCE MY WIFE WAS WITH ME YESTERDAY AND TODAY, I'VE KEPT QUIET, BUT...
I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO HIM.
I DO TOO.
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE DELVIG DIED.
I'D LIKE TO CONFRONT HIM AS THE PUBLISHER OF THE PROHIBITED "CONTEMP-ORARY"...

BE CAREFUL, DEAR.
I'M SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE
RIGHT!
THE BEGINNING OF YOUR MARRIAGE IS CRUCIAL!
YOU HAVE TO REALIZE THAT YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE WHENEVER YOU WANT TO MEET WITH FRIENDS OR GO TO WORK!
IF YOU DO, ALL YOU'LL HEAR FROM YOUR WIFE IS COMPLAINTS
OH!
SINCE I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'LL BE BACK
HEAD ON HOME BY YOURSELF LATER.
NATALIA NIKOLAEVNA,
WE SHOULD BECOME FRIENDS OURSELVES
BUT I STILL HAVEN'T MADE UP WITH HIM!


THOSE TWO STILL HAVEN'T RECOVERED FROM THEIR FRIEND'S DEATH
BUT SINCE PUSHKIN LOVES YOU SO MUCH,
HE ONLY WANTS YOU TO SEE HIS GOOD SIDE
BUT OUR LOVE FOR HIM GROWS EVER MORE FOOLISHLY
AS HE RISES IN THE WORLD

IS THAT IT?
THE DRIVER JUST LEFT!
NOW'S THE TIME!

VYAZEMSKY IS SOMEWHAT SIMILAR
I THINK I CAN TELL YOU A LOT OF USEFUL THINGS

I HEARD THAT YOU CAME TO MY WEDDING THE OTHER DAY?
EXCUSE US, GENERAL BENKENDORF!
THUNK
THUNK
TAP TAP
IS BECAUSE OF DELVIG, AM I RIGHT?
THE REASON YOU CAN'T FACE PUSHKIN FACE TO FACE,
I'LL TELL MY MEN TO HIDE THEMSELVES BETTER
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME AND TALK TO ME?
I NEEDED TO SPEAK TO YOU...
I'M MARRIED NOW...
AND I DON'T WANT TO WORRY MY YOUNG WIFE
CAN YOU STOP FOLLOWING ME AROUND ALL THE TIME?
ARE YOU HERE TO CHECK OUT MY NEW HOME?
DO YOU THINK I GAVE HIM THE COLD THAT KILLED HIM?
HA?!

AND MY BEST FRIEND...
DIED BEFORE I COULD GO VISIT HIM!
HE COULDN'T HANDLE YOU THREATENING HIM, SO HIS BODY BROKE DOWN...
SQUEEZ
I HOPE WITH ALL MY HEART THAT YOU CAN LIVE A NORMAL LIFE
THE TSAR FEELS THE SAME WAY,
AND I'M SURE THE LATE BARON DELVIG DID AS WELL.
PUSHKIN,
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR MARRIAGE
BACK THEN HE...
ASKED ME TO SETTLE THINGS WITH YOU...
HE DID WHAT ?

WHEN HE WAS UNDER HOUSE ARREST AT MIKHAILOVSKOE VILLAGE
THE POEMS HE WROTE
THIS IS IT
"CARESS OF THE MUSE"
"SHUNNED BY THE TSAR, YOU CAME TO A POET'S HOUSE ...
OH MY PUSHKIN THOSE DARK DAYS OF EXILE CHANGED INTO BRIGHT ONES AT LITSEI."
"OH, MY DELVIG HAPPY-GO-LUCKY AND OVERFLOWING WITH INSPIRATION
HIS VOICE HAS AWAKENED THE FLAMES THAT HAD LONG BEEN SLEEPING IN MY HEART"

"UNDER THE CARESS OF THE MUSE WE SPENT OUR YOUTHFUL DAYS SO VERY PEACEFULLY...
PEOPLE PRAISED ME EARLY ON,
BUT YOU WERE SUBLIME - IT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF THE MUSE AND FOR THE SAKE OF THE SOUL THAT YOU WROTE."
"OH, OUR COMRADES WANE AS TIME GOES BY
SOME LEAVE FOR THEIR GRAVES
SOME GO ALONE TO FAR-AWAY LANDS*."
YOU...
WRITE OF LOVE AND JUSTICE AS IF IT WERE YOUR JOB
IT'S MY JOB TO MANAGE THOSE IDEOLOGIES WHICH WOULD SHAKE THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT.
"FATE HAS CAUGHT US...
WE ARE GROWING OLD."
"UNAWARES OUR BODIES BECOME SMALL
AND GROW SLOWLY EMACIATED
WE ARE RETURNING TO THE LAND OF DARKNESS - THE BOSOM OF OUR MOTHERLAND..."

*Far-Away Lands = Pushkin became a Siberian Camp refugee.

GENERAL ...! SEND US...
TO SIBERIA, BUT JUST LEAVE PUSHKIN...
DELVIG SAID THIS
HE ONLY JUST DECIDED TO FINALLY MARRY THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE!
FOR SOMEONE WHO NEVER KNEW THE LOVE OF HIS PARENTS...
I WANT HIM TO HAVE A HAPPY FAMILY...!
I'LL ALWAYS BE YOUR RIGHT-HAND MAN IN A DUEL, OKAY, PUSHKIN?
EVEN IF YOU GET A LIFE THREATENING WOUND, I'LL SAVE YOU!

HURRAY FOR PUSHKIN!
WHATEVER HAPPENS, I'LL ALWAYS BE ON YOUR SIDE
SO YOU HAVE TO FIGHT WITH PRIDE PUSHKIN!
YOU'RE OUR STAR OF HOPE
HURRAY!
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR MARRIAGE, PUSHKIN!

WAS
OH...
I WAS READING YOUR POETRY... I SHOULDN'T HAVE...

I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND...
MR. DELVIG'S POEM...
...I'M SORRY.

I LOVE ...
YOU
NATALIA,
HIS UNKEPT HAIR...
ALTHOUGH IT'S ALWAYS MESSY...

SHOCK
HE'S ADORABLE.
HE WAS SO SCARY YESTERDAY, BUT TODAY...
STRANGE...

ALWAYS...?
AH...
FOR A MOMENT I WAS DREAMING
THAT DREAM I ALWAYS SEE

THEN, ONE DAY, I RECEIVED A FORTUNE FROM A GERMAN FORTUNETELLER
THE THINGS SHE SAID KEEP ON REPEATING IN MY DREAM
I WAS ABOUT THE AGE YOU ARE NOW,
AND I'D GO OUT TO HAVE FUN EVERY NIGHT

SHE WAS AN OLD, WITCH-LIKE LADY, AND SHE READ MY FUTURE WITH SOME CARDS.
SHE GAVE ME FIVE PREDICTIONS IN GERMAN.
THE FIRST IS THAT YOU'LL COME INTO A LOT OF MONEY IN THE NEAR FUTURE
SECOND AN UNEXPECTED EVENT SHALL OCCUR IN THE NEAR FUTURE
XIII
Death
The Tower
XXI
The World
XXII
The Fool
FOURTH
YOU'LL BE EXILED TWO TIMES.
THIRD, YOU'LL BECOME FAMOUS
AND THE FIFTH ONE?
SO FAR... THE FIRST FOUR PREDICTIONS HAVE COME TRUE...

IN TRUTH...
REALLY?
ONLY HALF OF IT HAS COME TRUE.
"FIFTH, YOU WILL MARRY A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN AND BE GIFTED WITH FIVE CHILDREN BY THE TIME YOU ARE 37 YEARS OLD."
DUE TO A WHITE HEAD, A WHITE HORSE, OR POSSIBLY, A WHITE PERSON, A GREAT CALAMITY WILL BEFALL YOU.
FIFTH... WHEN YOU ARE 37 YEARS OLD,
BUT IF YOU CANNOT—
IF YOU CAN OVERCOME IT, THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE LONG...

IF YOU CANNOT...
SLAM

BANG
In the July Revolution, Charles X was defeated
There was an eighteen-year old soldier of the faction that supported the pure Bourbon Dynasty

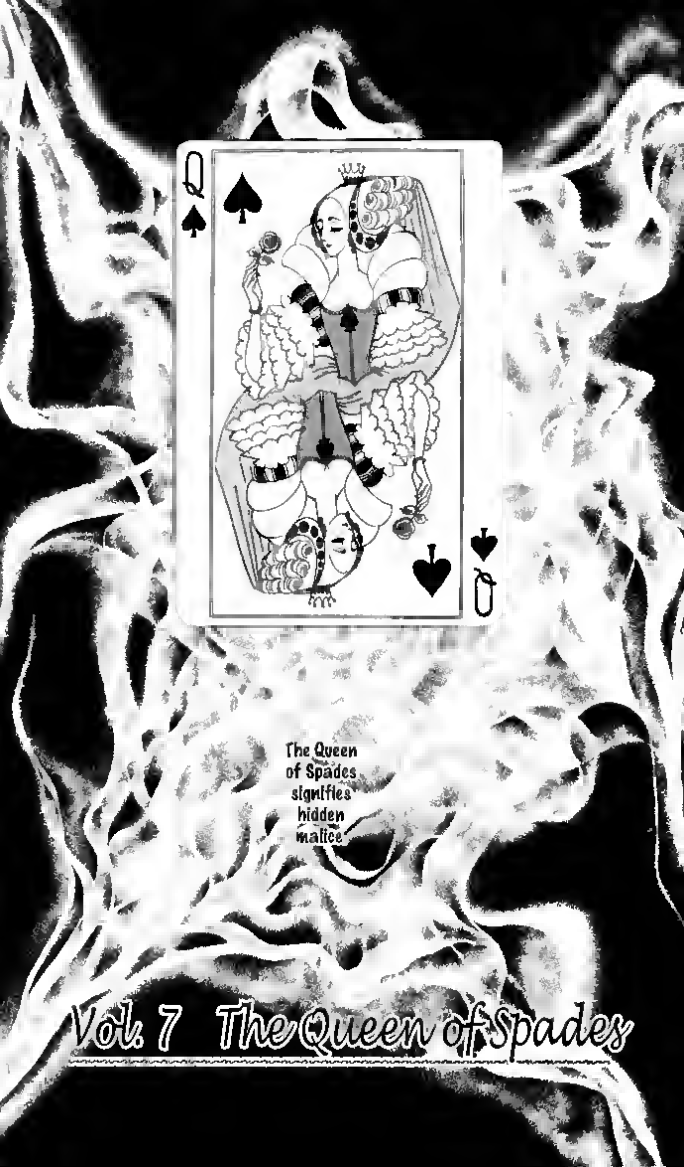
Baron Georges d'Anthes, known for his farsightedness and his dashing good looks...
Seeing no hope of France heading toward a civilized society he forsook it...
And began to head towards the northern capitol of St. Petersburg.

Bronze no Tenshi

Chiho Saito

SCANNED BY: FREI
TRANSLATED BY: KISAKI
PROOFREAD BY: NATALIE
RUSSIAN TRANSLATIONS: ISIS
EDITED BY: LADYNAGISA
QC BY: KALENDEL

STORM IN HEAVEN
STORMINHEAVEN.NET



Vol. 7 The Queen of Spades

Russia, October 1839
Nicholas I docks in Kronshtadt

HAVE YOU RETURNED FROM YOUR HOLIDAY IN HOLLAND?!
I NEVER THOUGHT TO MEET YOU HERE!
BARON FRAN HELKELEN!
THE HOLLAND AMBASSABOR!
I'M KURSANOV FROM ANTIQUITIES!
I'LL GO SEE THEM.
I'VE REALLY BEEN ABLE TO GET MY HANDS ON EXACTLY WHAT YOU ASKED FOR
I'VE JUST RECEIVED THE PIECES FROM FRANCE
THEY'RE ALL DONE IN THE GRECIAN STYLE WITH ONLY BEAUTIFUL MEN IN THEIR PRIME
HOW DO YOU LIKE THEM?

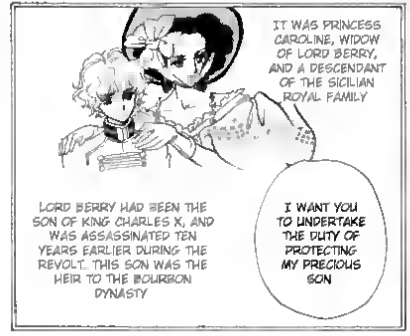
THESE ARE FAR MORE BEAUTIFUL THEN THOSE YOU ORDERED THE OTHER DAY—
BARON D'ANTHES!
ВОДКА
YOU WERE ONLY RECENTLY ILL. RETURN TO THE CARRIAGE.
OUI

WE MET UNEXPECTEDLY DURING MY TRIP IN THE GERMAN COUNTRYSIDE.
THAT WAS BARON GEORGE-CHARLES D'ANTHES, A FRENCHMAN.
I THOUGHT I'D HELP A YOUNG MAN WITH SUCH PROMISE AND SO SUGGESTED WE TRAVEL TOGETHER.
HE'S A GOOD SHOT AND AN EXCELLENT SOLDIER.
IT'S ALSO SAID THAT HE CARRIES A LETTER OF INTRODUCTION TO THE RUSSIAN TSAR FROM THE KING OF PRUSSIA HIMSELF
I HEARD THAT HE FOUGHT WITH THE LOYALIST FACTION THREE YEARS AGO IN FRANCE'S JULY REVOLUTION.
DO TELL ME NEXT TIME SOMETHING GOOD COMES IN
REALLY AREN'T THAT GREAT THIS TIME
THESE SCULPT-URES
OH, AND MR. KURGA-NOV,
I COULD CERTAINLY GRANT THE BARON THE SUCCESSFUL CAREER HE'D LIKE HERE IN RUSSIA.
AS A HOLLAND DIPLOMAT, I'M ACQUAINTED WITH MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE WITHIN THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT.
Indeed.

HE SEEMED TO FOLLOW WHAT THE AMBASSADOR TOLD HIM, BUT...
THEN OF COURSE HE'D DECIDE THAT LIVE GREEK SCULPTURES ARE BETTER.
A FALLEN FRENCH NOBLE-MAN
AHH,
BARON D'ANTHES...
HIS FACE DOESN'T REFLECT ANY EXCITEMENT AT ALL TO FINALLY ARRIVE IN THE LONG-AWAITED RUSSIA.
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE IN SUCH A PLIGHT...
BUT I LIKE THAT ABOUT YOU.
RIGHT NOW YOU'RE SOMEONE I DON'T QUITE UNDER-STAND.
HAH
HMM.
AH— YES?

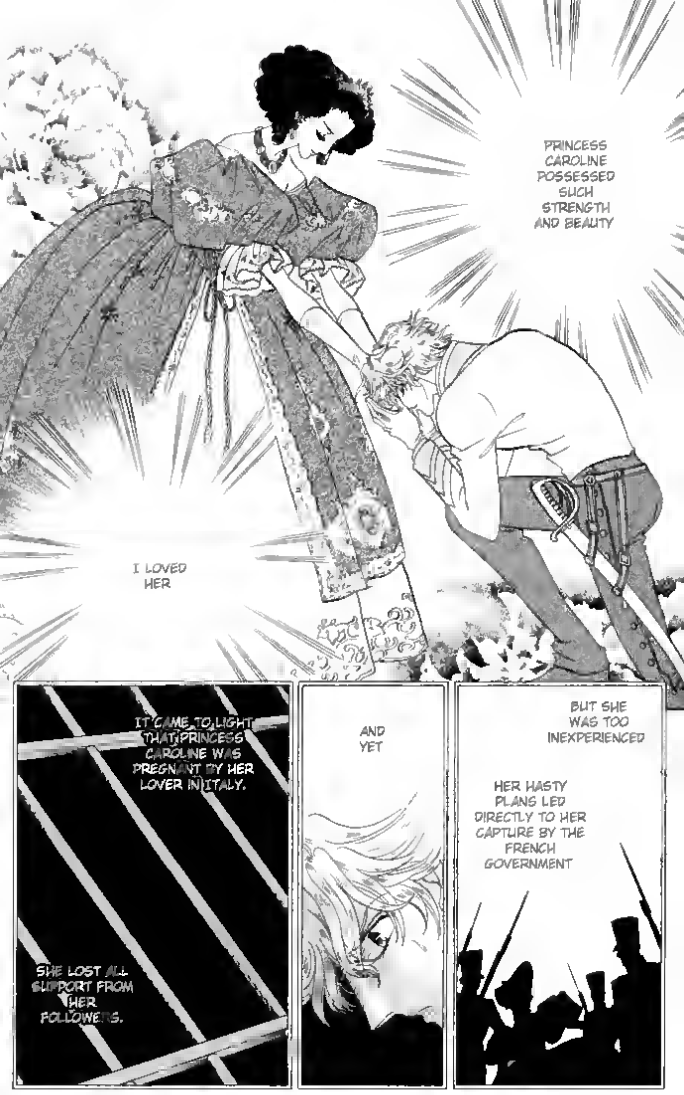
IN A COUNTRY I HAD NO INTEREST IN WHATSOEVER
THE FAR EAST WHERE IT'S ONLY EVER COLD IN A VAST COUNTRY RURAL AND STINKING
E E YEARS AGO I RNED, WITH SUCH HOPE

YOU ARE CERTAINLY WELCOME IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF THE BERRY MARQUIS WHENEVER YOU LIKE
GEORGE D'ANTHES, YOUR YOUTH DOES NO CREDENCE TO YOUR SKILL IN GUNMANSHIP. WELL DONE


IT WAS PRINCESS CAROLINE, WIDOW OF LORD BERRY, AND A DESCENDANT OF THE SICILIAN ROYAL FAMILY
LORD BERRY HAD BEEN THE SON OF KING CHARLES X, AND WAS ASSASSINATED TEN YEARS EARLIER DURING THE REVOLT. THIS SON WAS THE HEIR TO THE BOURBON DYNASTY
I WANT YOU TO UNDERTAKE THE DUTY OF PROTECTING MY PRECIOUS SON

AT THE SHOOTING TOURNAMENT AT SAINT CYR MILITARY ACADEMY
I WAS 18...

BUT RIGHT AFTER I BEGAN TO SERVE THE BERRY FAMILY,
PRINCESS CAROLINE AND THE FORMER KING WERE CHASED OUT OF THE COUNTRY!
CHARLES X WAS OVERTHROWN IN THE JULY REVOLUTION
I SHALL ONE DAY RESTORE THE BOURBON DYNASTY!
PRINCESS CAROLINE IS CALLING FOR ME!
I, CHARLES D'ANTHES, WOULD GIVE UP MY LIFE FOR THEM!
I AM IN ITALY, MY BIRTHPLACE, WITH MY FOLLOWERS.
D'ANTHES! PLEASE SAVE US!
WE HAVE PLANS TO STAND UP AGAINST THEM. ALONG WITH ALL THE PATRIOTS AND LOVERS OF FRANCE, WE WILL HAVE MY SON AS KING. WE WILL MARCH ON PARIS! PLEASE ACCOMPANY US!


PRINCESS CAROLINE POSSESSED SUCH STRENGTH AND BEAUTY
I LOVED HER
IT CAME TO LIGHT THAT PRINCESS CAROLINE WAS PREGNANT BY HER LOVER IN ITALY.
SHE LOST ALL SUPPORT FROM HER FOLLOWERS.
AND YET
BUT SHE WAS TOO INEXPERIENCED
HER HASTY PLANS LED DIRECTLY TO HER CAPTURE BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT

THE HEART OF FRANCE WAS BECOMING OCCUPIED BY THE BOURGEOISIE
THE DEATH OF MY MOTHER, WHO HAD HELD THE FAMILY TOGETHER
HAD AGED MY FATHER REMARKABLY IN THE PAST TWO YEARS
I BEGAN TO DESPAIR ABOUT IT ALL
ALL THAT AWAITED ME WAS AN IDLE LIFE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE
EVEN AFTER RETURNING TO HIDE MYSELF IN MY HOMETOWN
I'LL GO TO ANOTHER COUNTRY!
THERE I CAN CUT A PATH FOR MYSELF!
I FOUND A WAY TO GET INTRODUCED AND FINALLY REACHED THE PRUSSIAN KING—
THE MILITARY RULERS OF THE PRUSSIAN EMPIRE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE USE OF MY TALENTS —!
BARON CHARLES D'ANTHES

IF YOU TRULY DESIRE A SUCCESSFUL CAREER,
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE RUSSIAN TROOPS?
YES,
YOUR MAJESTY
...
EVEN YOU, A NOBLEMAN, WOULD HAVE TO BEGIN AS AN ENLISTED OFFICER.
OUR RUSSIAN MILITARY IS GOVERNED BY IRON DISCIPLINE.
AS I TRAVELED FARTHER AND FARTHER EAST,
AS THE CLIMATE SHIFTED CLOSER AND CLOSER TO THAT OF THE NORTHERN COUNTRIES
I FELT LIKE MY DESTINY WAS ALSO BEGINNING TO FREEZE.
MY DAUGHTER IS THE WIFE OF TSAR NICHOLAS I, SO I COULD INTRODUCE YOU TO HIM.
BEING A ROYALIST WON'T BE A PROBLEM, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SUCCEED.

ALL I THOUGHT ABOUT WAS ONE THING
AND ONLY VAGUELY CONSCIOUS,
MY MONEY DWINDLING,
KNOWING NO ONE,
ON THE WAY TO RUSSIA I FINALLY COLLAPSED
HOTEL
WITHOUT HAVING A NAME FOR MYSELF, ALONE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
WITHOUT HAVING ACCOMPLISHED ANYTHING, LIKE NAPOLEON?
AM I GOING TO DIE?
NO,
NO,
I DON'T WANT TO END LIKE THIS .!

WHO'S THERE..?!
I AM BARON FRANHELKELEN.
I AM THE RESIDENT AMBASSADOR IN ST PETERSBURG FROM HOLLAND.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
COMPOSE YOURSELF
CLATTER

I HEARD RUMORS ABOUT YOU AT THE TRAIN STATION AND FELT SORRY FOR YOU
I CAME TO SEE HOW YOU WERE..
FROM WHAT I HEAR, YOU'VE HAD A HIGH FEVER FOR DAYS NOW
I'LL CALL A DOC-TOR.
LEAVE THE REST TO ME
FORGET THE DOCTOR...
SAVE...
THE...
VIC-TIM.

RATTLE
RATTLE RATTLE
BARON FRAN HELKELEN...
THIS ST PETERSBURG IS A WONDERFUL CITY,
BARON D'ANTHES
A BACHELOR AT HIS AGE
SOMETIMES STARING AT ME AS IF HE WERE WAITING FOR SOMETHING
I CAN'T THINK THAT HE'S MERELY A KIND MAN...
PETER THE GREAT HAD IT BUILT 130 YEARS AGO.
IT WAS MODELED AFTER AMSTERDAM IN MY COUNTRY OF HOLLAND.
PETER THE GREAT TOOK HIS LAGGING COUNTRY
AND REMADE RUSSIA IN THE IMAGE OF EUROPE.

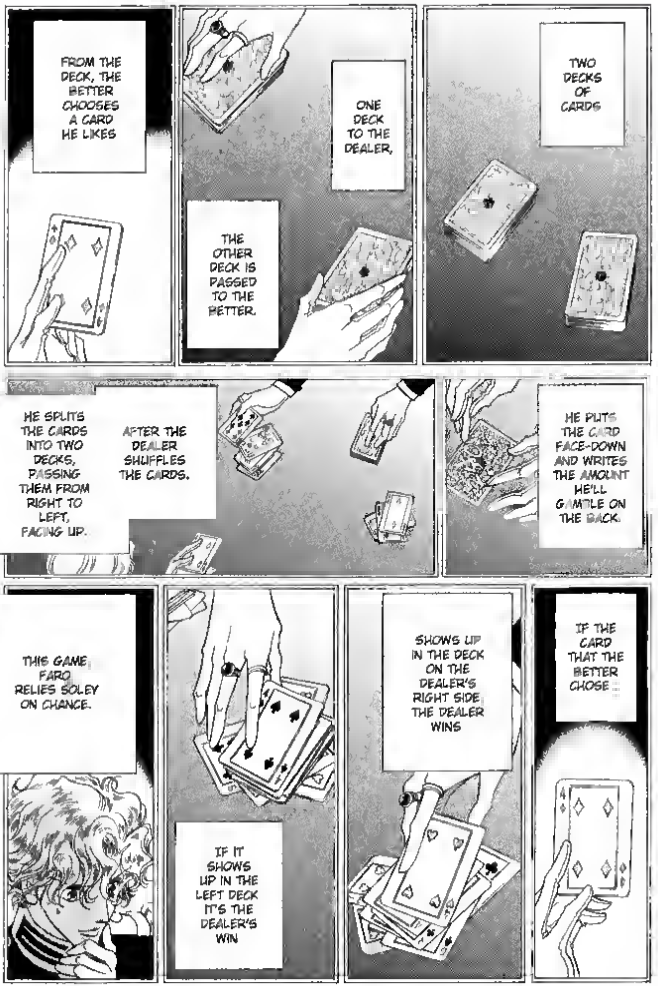
HE ABANDONED THE OLD CAPITAL OF MOSCOW...
HE'S A DIPLOMAT WHOSE WORDS FLOW SMOOTHLY AND CANNOT BE UNDERESTIMATED.
HERE, THE BUILDINGS WERE CONSTRUCTED IN THE EUROPEAN STYLE
MANY THOUSANDS OF LABORERS DIED IN THE PROCESS
HE'S PROBABLY A HOMO-SEXUAL
THE LEADING NOBILITY WERE FORCED TO MOVE TO THE NEW CITY
BECAUSE OF THAT, THE BUILDINGS HERE ARE ALL NEW
I DON'T PARTICULARLY CARE
THE PLACE WHERE YOU'LL BE STAYING,
IS THE HOLLAND EMBASSY
QUITE WARM FOR RUSSIA

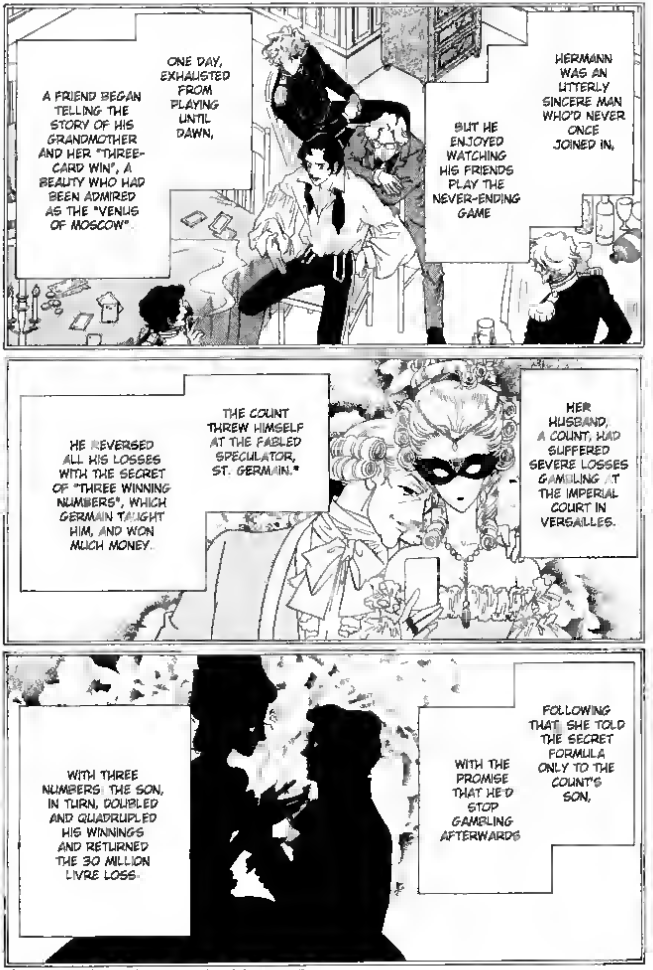
IN ORDER TO RISE IN POWER IN RUSSIA AND RETURN TRIUMPHANTLY TO FRANCE
I SHALL UTILIZE WHATEVER I CAN GET MY HANDS ON,
THIS IS THE TSAR'S WINTER PALACE.
UNLIKE THAT TIME, 20 YEARS AGO
NICHOLAS I'S GRANDMOTHER, EMPRESS EKATERINA, HIS MOTHER, AND HIS WIFE ARE ALL OF GERMAN DESCENT.
THEY MAY CALL HIM A RUSSIAN EMPEROR BUT HE'S MOSTLY GERMAN.
WHEN NAPOLEON CONQUERED ALL THE WAY UP TO RUSSIA, BUT WAS FINALLY FORCED TO RETURN HOME IN UTTER DEFEAT

THE TSAR HIMSELF CAN'T HIDE HIS PRUSSIAN SIDE
I'VE SEEN WHAT A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION LIKE YOURS CAN DO
HMM...
WHITE, I SUPPOSE?
WHAT?
AMAZING!
JUST LIKE THAT, YOU'RE THE SECOND LIEUTENANT OF THE IMPERIAL GUARDS CAVALRY.
white military uniform
Yes, that suits you well
IT'S MR. D'ANTHES!
HE'S SO HANDSOME! ♡
So dashing!
HE'S FROM FRANCE, ISN'T HE?!
HOW WONDERFUL! ♡

OH, IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE I WAS BORN
MY RUSSIAN IS REALLY NOT VERY GOOD
BUT WHY DO ALL THE WELL-TO-DOS HERE SPEAK FRENCH RATHER THAN RUSSIAN IN CONVERSATION?
WELL, I AM FRENCH
ABSENTLY MURMURING FRENCH, JUST LOVELY...
MR D'ANTHES, YOU'RE A WONDERFUL DANCER AND CONVERSATIONALIST
THE FAMILY TUTOR IS A FRENCHMAN
I WRITE LETTERS IN FRENCH AND READ BOOKS IN FRENCH
OH...
THE ONLY RUSSIAN BOOKS I READ ARE BY PUSHKIN...

"THE QUEEN OF SPADES"?
IT'S A NOVEL THAT WAS RECENTLY PUBLISHED.
TONIGHT I SHALL ALSO START BY BETTING WITH A "3"
BECAUSE OF PUSHKIN'S "QUEEN OF SPADES"
RIGHT NOW, THE FAD IS TO GAMBLE WITH THE CARDS "3" "7" AND "1".
THE MAIN CHARACTER IS A GERMAN MAN NAMED HERMANN
AN OFFICER IN THE ENGINEERS
IT'S ABOUT GAMBLING, THE RELIC OF A VERSAILLES COUNTESS,
GHOSTS
AND...
A WINTER'S NIGHT IN ST. PETERSBURG


FROM THE DECK, THE BETTER CHOOSES A CARD HE LIKES
ONE DECK TO THE DEALER.
THE OTHER DECK IS PASSED TO THE BETTER.
TWO DECKS OF CARDS
HE SPLITS THE CARDS INTO TWO DECKS, PASSING THEM FROM RIGHT TO LEFT, FACING UP.
AFTER THE DEALER SHUFFLES THE CARDS.
HE PUTS THE CARD FACE-DOWN AND WRITES THE AMOUNT HE'LL GAMBLE ON THE BACK.
THIS GAME, FARO, RELIES SOLEY ON CHANCE.
IF IT SHOWS UP IN THE LEFT DECK IT'S THE DEALER'S WIN
SHOWS UP IN THE DECK ON THE DEALER'S RIGHT SIDE THE DEALER WINS
IF THE CARD THAT THE BETTER CHOSE


A FRIEND BEGAN TELLING THE STORY OF HIS GRANDMOTHER AND HER "THREE-CARD WIN", A BEAUTY WHO HAD BEEN ADMIRED AS THE "VENUS OF MOSCOW".
ONE DAY, EXHAUSTED FROM PLAYING UNTIL DAWN,
BUT HE ENJOYED WATCHING HIS FRIENDS PLAY THE NEVER-ENDING GAME
HERMANN WAS AN UTTERLY SINCERE MAN WHO'D NEVER ONCE JOINED IN,
HE REVERSED ALL HIS LOSSES WITH THE SECRET OF "THREE WINNING NUMBERS", WHICH GERMAIN TAUGHT HIM, AND WON MUCH MONEY.
THE COUNT THREW HIMSELF AT THE FABLED SPECULATOR, ST. GERMAIN.*
HER HUSBAND, A COUNT, HAD SUFFERED SEVERE LOSSES GAMBLING AT THE IMPERIAL COURT IN VERSAILLES.
WITH THREE NUMBERS: THE SON, IN TURN, DOUBLED AND QUADRUPLED HIS WINNINGS AND RETURNED THE 30 MILLION LIVRE LOSS.
WITH THE PROMISE THAT HE'D STOP GAMBLING AFTERWARDS
FOLLOWING THAT, SHE TOLD THE SECRET FORMULA ONLY TO THE COUNT'S SON,

*A mysterious alchemist who wandered through France and Russia.

HEARING THIS STORY SPARKED HERMANN'S IMAGINATION.
IF THE STORY WAS TRUE
AND HE COULD LEARN THE SECRET OF THOSE THREE MAGICAL NUMBERS FROM THE COUNT'S WIFE,
HE, A FOREIGN COMMONER MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE A FORTUNE.
HOWEVER...
IF HE COULD TRY OUT HIS LUCK...
NO.
ECONOMY, MODERATION, AND DILIGENCE,
THOSE WERE THE "THREE NUMBERS" HIS FATHER HAD TAUGHT HIM
"THE COUNT'S WIFE."
SOME-ONE WHIS-PERED.

MY LUCK...

A HARD-TO-PLEASE YOUNG GIRL WHO APPEARED TO BE THE WOMAN'S MAID.
WAS A POOR RELATION WHOM SHE'D TAKEN IN. HER NAME WAS LIZAVETA
HE SENT LOVE LETTERS EACH DAY TO THIS GIRL WHO HAD NOTHING TO DO BUT CARE FOR THE WOMAN.
AT LAST A REPLY CAME FROM LIZAVETA
When the count's wife and I depart for the ambassador's ball tonight,
Please conceal yourself in the mansion.
My room is in the interior of the count's wife's.
The way to the mansion is. .

COUNTESS,
PLEASE
TEACH ME THE SECRET OF THE THREE WINNING NUMBERS
CLICK
HOWEVER, THE PLACE WHERE HERMANN HID HIMSELF WAS .

PLEASE BE QUIET.
I'M NOT HERE TO FRIGHTEN YOU.
I ONLY WANT YOU TO GIVE ME HAPPINESS
PLEASE!!
I MAY BE A LIBERTINE, BUT I'M NOT SLOTHFUL! I UNDERSTAND FULLY THE VALUE OF MONEY!
!
PLEASE!
IF YOU HAVE ANY COMPASSION AT ALL—
ONE MAN'S FUTURE HAPPINESS LIES IN YOUR HANDS!
THAT
THAT WAS A JEST
I KNOW YOU TOLD YOUR SON WHO WON A LOT OF MONEY!

I SEE
I UNDER-STAND
YOU...
YOU DOTDERING OLD WITCH!
CLICK
IF THAT'S HOW IT IS...
I'LL MAKE YOU ANSWER BY FORCE...!

NOW ...!!
I ASK YOU AGAIN!
AH... AH...
WILL YOU TELL ME THE THREE NUMBERS,
OR...
HEY?
.....
FALL
GEH!
THE COUNTESS NEVER ANSWERED
SHE WAS ALREADY DEAD

DEVIL...!
HE'D HAD NO INTENTION OF KILLING HER,
BUT IT WAS CERTAINLY HE WHO HAD KILLED HER.
GET OUT! YOU'RE A DEVIL!
AT LAST,
!
LIZAVETA UNDERSTOOND HERMANN'S TRUE MOTIVE
THE FUNERAL SERVICE FOR THE COUNTESS WAS HELD THREE DAYS FROM THAT FATED NIGHT

IT SEEMED LIKE THE CORPSE HAD WINKED ONE EYE AT HIM
WHAT ...
CLATTER

SWOOSH
WAS THERE SOMEONE LOOKING IN AT HIM?
WHAT?

"3"
"7"
"1"
I HAVE BEEN COMMANDED TO GRANT YOUR WISH
I HAVE NOT COME HERE TONIGHT ...
OF MY OWN WILL.
WH...

UNTIL YOU DIE YOU MAY NEVER LAY YOUR HANDS ON A DECK OF CARDS EVER AGAIN.
AND ONCE YOU'VE WON,
HOWEVER, YOU MAY ONLY GAMBLE ONE CARD EACH DAY.
IF YOU BET WITH THESE NUMBERS IN ORDER, YOU SHALL WIN.

FURTHER-
MORE,
IF YOU
TAKE
THAT POOR
LIZAVETA
AS YOUR
BRIDE
I SHALL
FORGIVE
YOU
FOR
MURDERING
ME

"3"
"7"
"1"
WITH A PROFILE LIKE THAT OF NAPOLEON'S.
AND A HEART THAT HAD BECOME AS COLD AS THAT OF MEPHISTO-PHELES',
HERMANN CHANGED.
"3"
"1"
"7"

BETTING FOUR MILLION AND SEVEN THOUSAND LIVRES ON THE FIRST NIGHT—
3

LIKE NAPOLEON STEPPING INTO BATTLE,
JUST SO DID HERMANN ENTER THE CASINO

IT'S HERMANN'S WIN AGAIN!
THE SEVEN HAS APPEARED IN THE LEFT DECK!

THE SECOND NIGHT,
HE DOUBLED THE AMOUNT FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE,
AND BET NINE MILLION, FOUR THOUSAND LIVRES.
7.

ON THE THIRD NIGHT,
HE PLACED HIS FINAL BET

I'LL QUADRUPLE IT.
ON 1,
A QUEEN ON THE RIGHT...
A 1 ON THE LEFT!
NO...
YOU LOST.
LOOK CLOSELY,
THE CARD YOU BET ON...
WAS THE QUEEN...
YES ...!!
I WON!

WHAT?! THAT'S RIDICULOUS...
I THOUGHT I BET ON 1!
!
AHHH!

OH...
DO YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT GERMANS WORK TOO HARD?
HE LOST HIS MIND AND WENT TO A HOSPITAL
PUSHKIN, WAS IT?
Ah... I must greet that beauty over there.
THAT MAN IS AN ABSOLUTE GENIUS
THERE'S NO OTHER NOVEL AS WELL-WRITTEN AS THAT ONE
PUSHKIN!
AND THAT IS HOW IT HAP-PENED
AFTER THAT
WHAT HAPPENED TO HERMANN?

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL...
WHAT...
EXCUSE ME...
I WAS REACHING FOR THE CARD AT YOUR FEET...

PLEASE
CALL FOR MY HUSBAND
CALL PUSHKIN
NATALIA?!
PUSHKIN?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY WIFE?!
HE'S NOT RUSSIAN?
AH...
MY STOMACH IS IN PAIN...
THE BABY...
A MISCARRIAGE?
SHE'S PREGNANT...?

FALL
NATALIA
...?!

Bronze no Tenshi
Volume 2 Chapter 8

Barcarolle
http://barcarolle1.wordpress.com/

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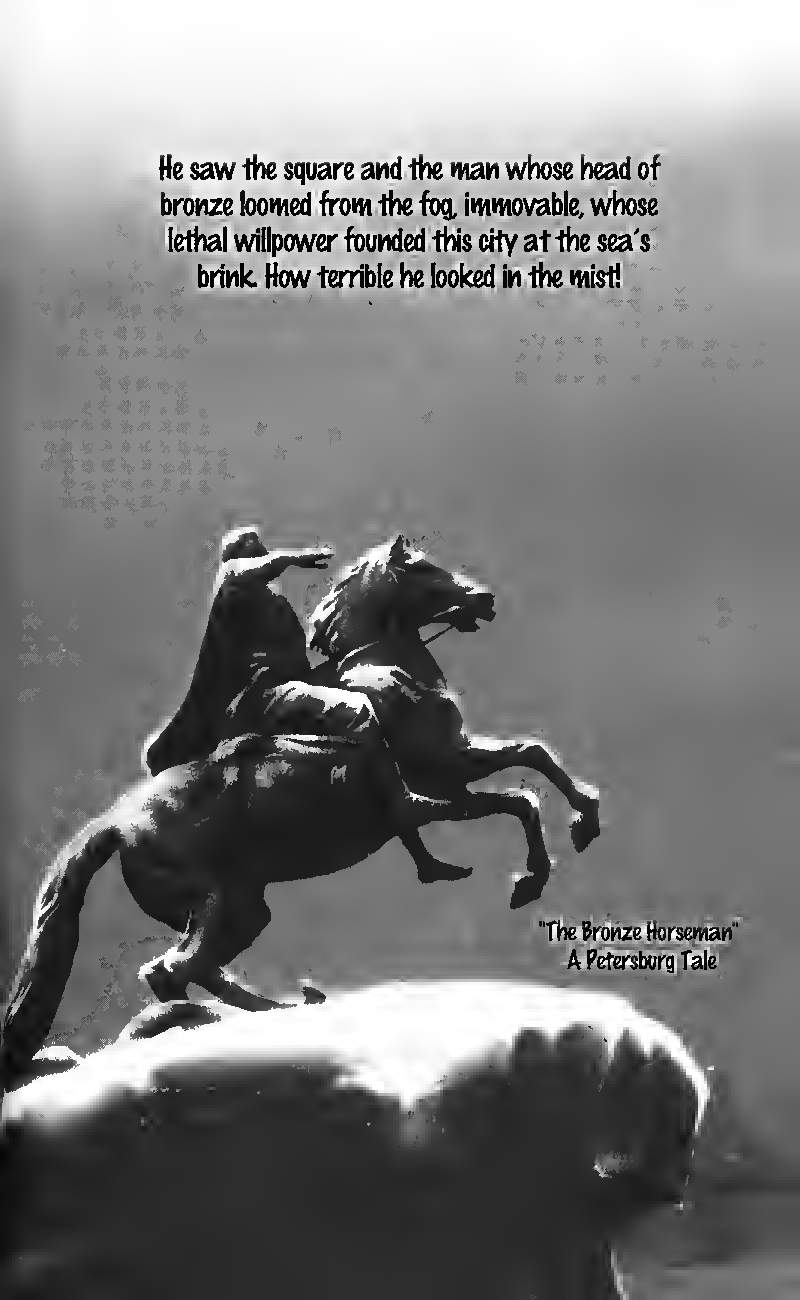
VOL. 8 The Bronze Horseman

He saw the square and the man whose head of bronze loomed from the fog, immovable, whose lethal willpower founded this city at the sea's brink. How terrible he looked in the mist!



"The Bronze Horseman"
A Petersburg Tale

WHERE IS MY BABY?
WHAT HAPPENED? MY STOMACH SUDDENLY
IT HURTS
IT HURTS!

*SASHA IS A PET NAME FROM ALEXANDER PUSHKIN

NATALIA,
I'M GLAD THAT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT
I'M SORRY, THIS ALL HAPPENED BECAUSE I DIDN'T LISTEN TO YOU.
AND DANCED AND RAN A LOT
IT CAN'T BE HELPED
IT'S BEEN OKAY UP UNTIL NOW
WHEN YOU WERE PREGNANT WITH MASHKA TWO YEARS AGO*,
AND WITH SASHKA LAST YEAR*.
ZZZ

*PETNAMES FROM RUSSIAN NAME "MARIA" AND "ALEXANDER"

NO!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF MASHIKA
YOU HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR BODY
IT'S ALL RIGHT
COME HERE, PAPA WILL CARRY YOU LIKE USUAL.
SORRY, SHE WON'T STOP CRYING
LET ME DO IT!
Kya ha ha ha
aaa
smile
THEN SASHIKA
And young master Sashika looks like my lady
MASHIKA LOOKS JUST LIKE HER FATHER
YOU TOO, MR. PUSHKIN
MY LADY
PLEASE REST,

WHAT!
I'LL NEVER WEAR IT EVER AGAIN
IT FEELS LIKE AN ILL OMEN.
WHEN I PUT MY SLEEVES THROUGH THAT THING
SLAM
OH...
I HAVE ALSO WASHED THE DIRT OFF THE MASTER'S MILITARY OUTFIT
IT WAS THE SAME WHEN SHE GAVE BIRTH TO LADY MASHIKA
HE'S REALLY WORRIED WHEN THE LADY'S HEALTH IS BAD...
MASTER PUSHKIN WAS MOANING AND CRYING LIKE HE WAS THE ONE DYING
WHEN LADY NATALIA WAS STRUGGLING THROUGH HER MISCA-RRIAGE,
HU HU
WHAT? WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING DURING SUCH A NIGHT?
HU
IT'S BECAUSE I JUST REMEM-BERED
I HAVE A FEELING THAT THE NEXT CHILD IS COMING SOON
HU
HE IS ONE STRANGE MAN
HE SAID THAT HE COULDN'T STAND WATCHING NATALIA GIVE BIRTH
SO WHEN THE LADY WAS ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH TO YOUNG MASTER SASHIKA, HE WENT OFF SOMEWHERE
HE LEARNT BY EXPE-RIENCE

PLEASE DON'T OVER-REACT
THAT WON'T HAPPEN,
BUT IF YOU GET ARRES-TED!
AND YOU EVEN MADE EXCUSES TO SKIP THE PARTY FOR FOUR MONTHS ALREADY!
HE TOLD YOU TO "ATTEND THE COURT WEARING THAT YOUNG CHAMBERLAIN'S UNIFORM"
BUT ISN'T AN ORDER FROM THE TSAR HIMSELF?
eh?
MY JOB IS TO WRITE,
NOT TO WEAR THAT FLASHY, GOLDEN OUTFIT
I UNDERS-TAND...
THE TSAR WILL UNDERSTAND WHEN HE READS ONE OF MY WRITINGS
I ONLY WORK FOR RUSSIAN PEOPLE, IN MY OWN WAY,
HE IS TRYING TO ORDER ME AROUND
THIS IS A MATTER BETWEEN THE TSAR AND ME

FOR HEAVENS SAKE, YOU DON'T EVEN LOOK FORWARD WHEN YOU WALK!
YOU MIGHT GET SICK IF YOU MOVE AROUND WHEN YOU HAVEN'T FULLY RECOVERED YET
NO!
BUT!
IF YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING, CALL ONE OF THE MAIDS
YOU MUST STAY IN BED FOR A WEEK
YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF
ALRIGHT!
I WON'T DANCE EVER AGAIN.
I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO TO THE TSAR'S BALL NOW ANYWAY
I SAW YOU SKIP A STEP
YOU ALWAYS WALK AS IF YOU'RE DANCING
WHEN YOU WERE WALKING DOWN THE STAIRS BEFORE!
YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE TSAR'S BALL?
I'M SORRY..
...

IT'S OKAY SASHA
BUT I
I HAD TO ATTEND COURT BALLS, TAKING YOU ALONG
JUST BECAUSE I WAS DESIGNATED AS A CHAMBERLAIN,
EVERYONE THERE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR BEAUTY,
AT THE TIME, MY STOMACH HURT SO MUCH AND EVERYTHING WENT BLANK.
I DON'T REMEMBER.
BLOND HAIR?
EVEN THAT HANDSOME YOUNG MAN WITH BLOND HAIR WHO HELPED YOU WHEN YOU FAINTED,
WAS ENCHANTED BY YOUR BEAUTY.
NATALIA...
YOUR SAD FACE APPEARED IN FRONT OF ME...
WHEN I WAS THINKING "MAYBE THE BABY..."

HOW WEIRD.
WHAT IS IT, YOUR MAJESTY?
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THE FRENCH, BLOND MAN WAS SECOND LIEUTENANT OF THE IMPERIAL GUARDS, BUT I CAN'T SEE HIM..
YOU ARE CERTAINLY RIGHT, YOUR MAJESTY
BUT..
HE IS ONE OF THE PEOPLE THAT ARE ALWAYS LATE
UMM.. NO.. ACTUALLY..
DID YOU FIRE HIM?
WHAT?

HE IS ALSO GOOD AT TALKING AND PERSUADING
My,
AND HIS SKILLS WITH THE GUNS ARE TOP NOTCH.
IF YOU GIVE HIM A SWORD, NO ONE CAN STAND AGAINST HIM.
Yawn
IS BARON GEORGE D'ANTHES NOT GOOD ENOUGH?
AT THIS PARTY, THERE SHOULD BE MORE PRETTY LADIES RATHER THAN PRETTY MEN
ON TOP OF THAT, HE IS THE CENTRE OF ATTENTION WHEN HE'S AT A PARTY
HE IS AN EXPERT AT DANCING
EVEN MY WIFE IS A FAN OF THAT BLOND YOUNGSTER.
OH NICK..
HE CAME TO THE RUSSIAN COURT WITH MY FATHER'S LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION
I SHOULD BE THE ONE TO LOOK AFTER HIM, RIGHT?
THAT MAN HAS TOO MANY PEOPLE BACKING HIM UP

AND HIS FRIEND, THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, NESSELRODE
HECKEREN, THE HOLLAND AMBASSADOR
FRENCH PEOPLE REALLY WANT TO BE THE NEXT NAPOLEON
IS THE REASON THAT YOU'RE IN A BAD MOOD
BECAUSE THE PERSON YOU WANT TO SEE ISN'T AT THE PARTY?
THAT PUSHKIN
PUSHKIN'S WIFE HAD A MISCARRIAGE LAST MONTH
YOU WERE PRESENT WHEN IT HAPPENED RIGHT,
SECOND LIEUTENANT D'ANTHES?
YES
WHEN THE LADY FAINTED I QUICKLY PICKED HER UP
OH MY!
RIGHT AFTER, A DARK-SKINNED MAN CAME AT A RUSH AND WAS ABOUT TO HIT ME

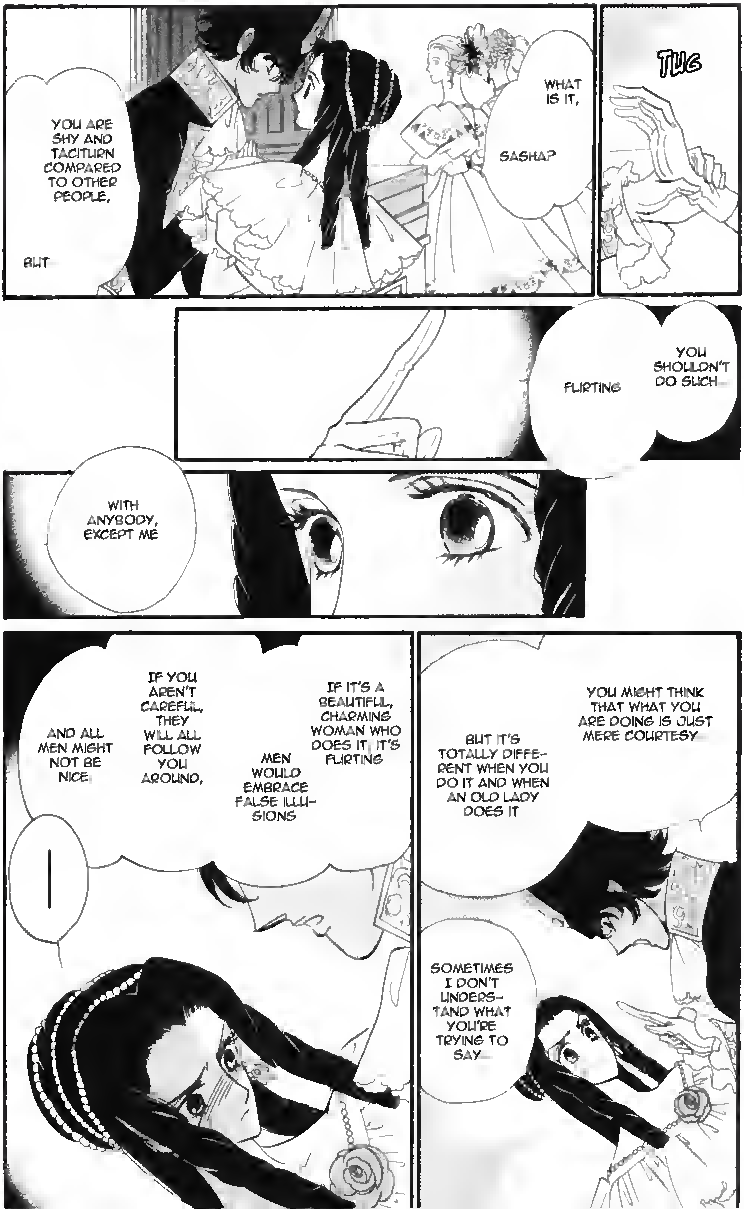
SHE IS PERFECTLY WELL!
NON-SENSE!
HIS WIFE HASN'T RECO-VERED YET?
PUSHKIN IS A HOTHEAD
HE MUST HAVE MISUN-DERSTOOD,
SINCE THERE ARE A LOT OF MEN COUR-TING HIS BEAUTIFUL WIFE
HMM
STILL, HE KEEPS IGNO-RING YOUR MAJESTY'S ORDER WITH THE EXCUSE OF HIS WIFE'S HEALTH
HE IS REBELLING AGAINST YOU
Lady Natalia Pushkin
YOU ARE EXAGGE-RATING
LET ME HANDLE THINGS
MOUFFY"?
"IT'S THE NICKNAME HE GAVE TO HIS WIFE

You are invited to the imperial court ball
organized by Empress Alexandra

WOW...
IT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PLACE, SASHA!!
NATALIA...

IT'S MR AND MRS PUSHKIN
LADY NATALIA PUSHKIN HAS FINALLY ATTENDED THE PARTY!
SHE IS SO BEAUTIFUL!
NATALIA, WATCH WHERE YOU'RE WALKING
IT'S MY FIRST TIME AT THE PALACE. SO I'M NERVOUS

IT WAS AFTER THE REVOLT OF THE DECEMBRISTS
MANY OF MY FRIENDS WERE EXECUTED
I WAS PREPARED TO FACE DEATH TOO.
YOU WERE INVITED BY THE EMPRESS TONIGHT
AND SINCE I COULDN'T LET YOU GO BY YOURSELF,
I HAVE TO WEAR THIS THING THAT'S NOT ME AT ALL.
YOU LOOK WONDERFUL.
..
SASHA,
YOU HAVE BEEN HERE BEFORE, RIGHT?
YES BUT NOT FOR A PARTY
I WAS SUMMONED BY THE TSAR
YOU'RE LYING
IF YOU TILT THIS A LITTLE MORE..


YOU ARE SHY AND TACITURN COMPARED TO OTHER PEOPLE,
BUT
WHAT IS IT, SASHA?
TUG
YOU SHOULDN'T DO SUCH
FLIRTING
WITH ANYBODY, EXCEPT ME
AND ALL MEN MIGHT NOT BE NICE.
IF YOU AREN'T CAREFUL, THEY WILL ALL FOLLOW YOU AROUND,
MEN WOULD EMBRACE FALSE ILLUSIONS
IF IT'S A BEAUTIFUL, CHARMING WOMAN WHO DOES IT, IT'S FLIRTING
—
YOU MIGHT THINK THAT WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS JUST MERE COURTESY.
BUT IT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT WHEN YOU DO IT AND WHEN AN OLD LADY DOES IT
SOMETIMES I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY.

CAN'T I BE NICE TO PEOPLE THEN?
THE FORMER ME WAS NOT SOCIABLE,
AND I COULDN'T SAY HALF THE THINGS I WANTED TO SAY
I DIDN'T LIKE MYSELF AND I HURT YOU BECAUSE OF THAT.
BUT AFTER LIVING WITH YOU,
WHAT YOU DID FOR ME MADE ME HAPPY
AND MY BEHAVIOUR CHANGED A LITTLE BIT.
BUT YOU...
TURN
NATALIA...
THUMP
SASHA?
ALEXANDER SERGEEVICH PUSHKIN!

GENERAL BENKENDORF,
I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU..
ABOUT THE WORK THAT YOU RECENTLY SUBMITTED,
PARTICULARLY ABOUT "THE BRONZE HORSEMAN"
I THINK THERE ARE SOME PROBLEMS WITH THE CONTENT.
IT'S THE SAME PROBLEM AS ALWAYS,
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ME. RIGHT?
NATALIA, I HAVE TO GO FOR A MOMENT
DID THE TSAR ALREADY SEE IT?
OR YOU? DID YOU?

IT'S THE MUSIC FOR SARABANDE*
A MINUET?
THE NEXT SONG IS...
IF SASHA LIKE TO DANCE WE COULD DANCE TOO
LADY PUSHKIN, MAY I HAVE A DANCE?
THE TSAR... IS DANCING WITH LADY PUSHKIN!
LOOK!
Blah Blah

*A DANCE

YES
WHAT AM I DOING?
HE CAN'T BE GUARDING YOU ALL THE TIME
HE HAS TO DO HIS JOB AS A CHAMBERLAIN
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR PUSHKIN?
looking around

DANCING WITH THE TSAR...
AS THE WIFE OF PUSHKIN

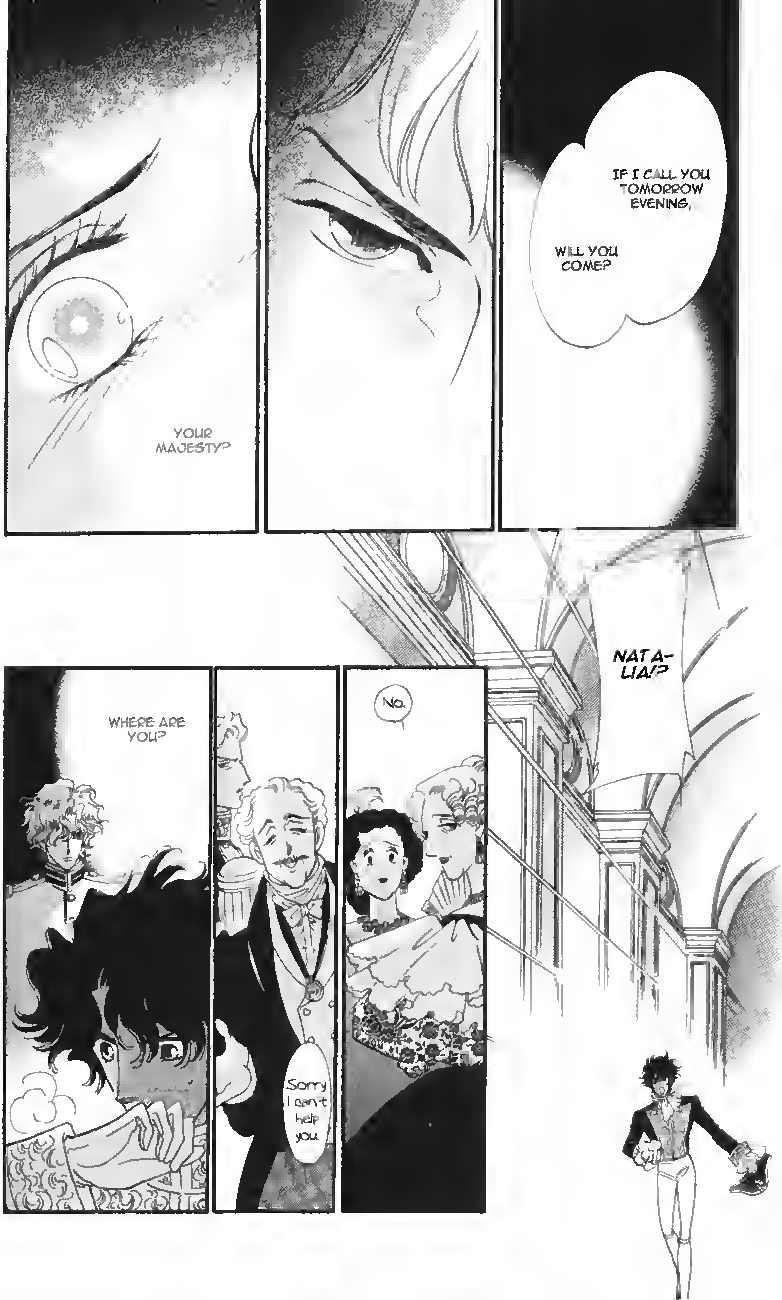
I LOOK LIKE A STUPID CHILD THAT CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM HER MOTHER
I NEED TO GROW UP AND BECOME MORE OF AN ADULT

HE LIKES TO PLAY WITH FIRE
OF COURSE
THE TSAR IS LEADING THE LADY WHILE DANCING TO A PLACE WHERE THERE'S NO ONE AROUND

IT'S FINE
IF SHE BECOMES THE FAVO-URITE OF THE TSAR
Looking around
HIS OFFICIAL RANK AND INCOMES WILL INCREASE A LOT
GIVING PUSHKIN THE ROLE OF A YOUNG CHAM-BERLAIN THAT DOESN'T SUIT HIM
WAS ONLY A REASON TO INVITE HIS WIFE TO HIS PARTIES
THERE IS NO WAY TO REJECT IT
IF THAT'S THE TSAR'S WISH
ANYWAY,
THAT'S WHY THERE'S NO HUSBAND IN RUSSIA THAT HATES HIS WIFE BECOMING THE TSAR'S "FAVO-URITE"
HE IS 34 YEARS OLD AND THE ROLE OF "YOUNG CHAMBER-LAIN"?
IT'S ALSO TO INSULT THE POET
Hu

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST DANCED
THE FOOTSTEPS JUST KEEP ON FLOWING
OH, HOW I JUST LOVE TO DANCE
YOU ARE CUTE
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU RE THE MOTHER OF TWO CHILDREN
IT'S VERY ENJOYABLE DANCING WITH YOU
THERE'S
NO ONE ELSE HERE!
WAIT

WHAT?
I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU
WHY?
WHY DON'T WE KEEP THIS A SECRET BETWEEN US?


YOUR MAJESTY?
IF I CALL YOU TOMORROW EVENING,
WILL YOU COME?
NATA-LIA!?
WHERE ARE YOU?
Sorry I can't help you.
No.

PUT
EVEN IF SHE JUST RECOVERED, I SHOULDN'T BE THIS WORRIED ABOUT HER.
NO. SHE IS NOT A CHILD.
YOU ARE...
THE ONE FROM THAT TIME.
WHEN SHE WENT DANCING WITH THE TSAR INTO THE ROOM WITH GOLDEN DOORS
I SAW YOUR WIFE A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T EVEN ASK FOR YOUR NAME BEFORE.
MY WIFE IS...

THANK YOU!
WHY DID YOU DO THAT?
I DON'T KNOW
MAYBE I JUST WANTED TO SEE HOW SERIOUS PUSHKIN WAS

A MAN WHO SUCKS AT GETTING GIRLS ALSO HAS A UNREFINED PERSONALITY
YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO GET A WOMAN WITH YOUR OWN MERITS
Laugh
AS ALWAYS,
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU.
YOUR MAJESTY!
FORGIVE ME.

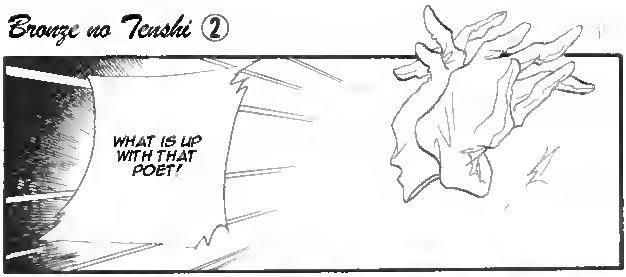
HAVE I DONE SOMETHING TO CATCH YOUR ATTENTION?
I WAS EVEN WARNED BY MY HUSBAND NOT TO DO SO ..
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
HA HA HA
HA
PLEASE
FORGIVE ME
SIGH
NOW PLEASE LIFT YOUR FACE
I WAS JOKING, LADY NATALIA
IT'S JUST A JOKE

SUCH A CUTE LADY
PUSHKIN, YOU MUSTN'T ENTER!

SASHA...
PUSHKIN,
I DON'T REMEMBER LETTING YOU ENTER THIS ROOM
YOUR MAJESTY,
I HAVE COME TO GET MY WIFE BACK

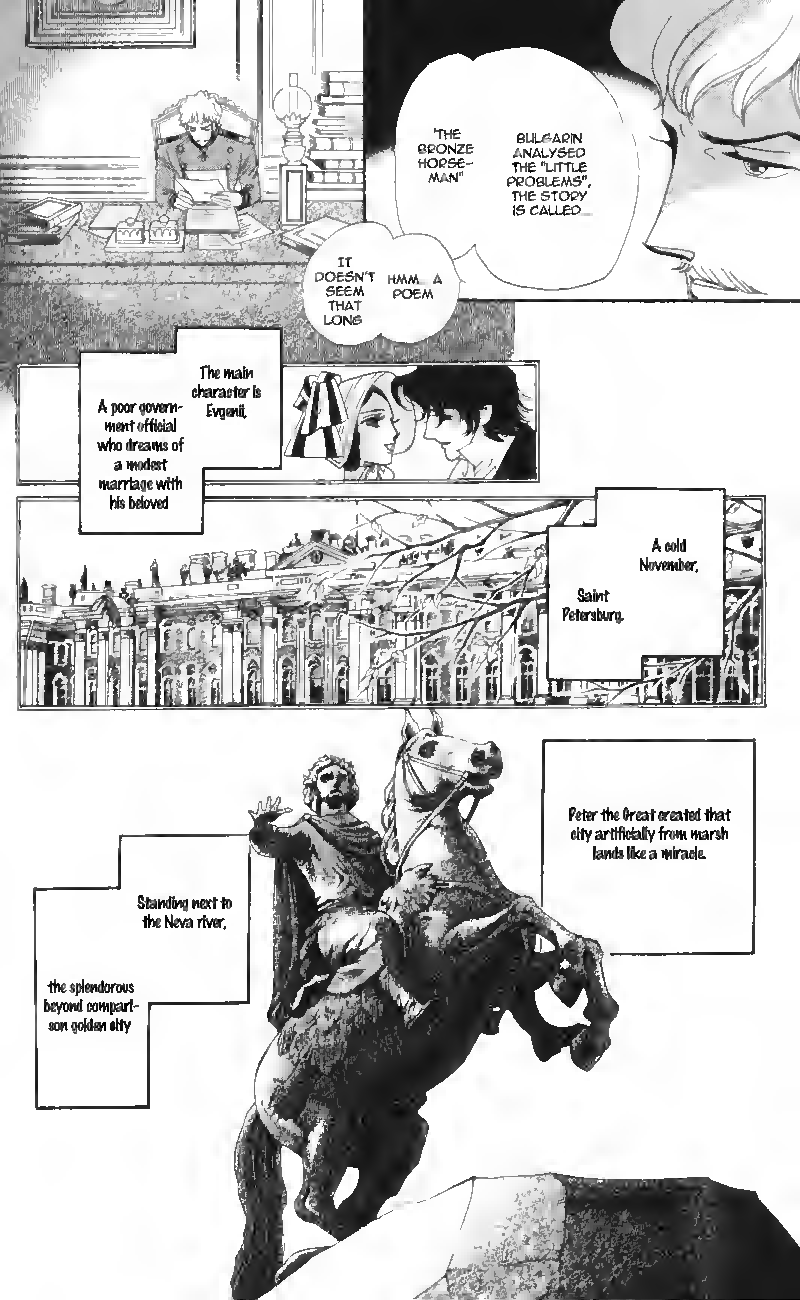
MY WIFE HAS JUST RECOVERED.
AND I WANT TO TAKE HER HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
COME HERE NATALIA
YES
YOU CAN GO NOW
I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN AT THE NEXT BALL.
LADY NATALIA PUSHKIN
YOU ARE THE FLOWER OF THE IMPERIAL COURT
AND YOU PUSHKIN,
ARE THE YOUNG CHAMBERLAIN
I HOPE THAT BOTH OF YOU WILL MAKE THE PALACE MORE LIVELY

THANK YOU, YOUR MAJES-TY
SASHA?


WHAT IS UP WITH THAT POET!

EVEN AFTER I GAVE HIM A RANK UP,HE DOESN'T EVEN THANK ME!
SUCH AN INSOLENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE TSAR!!
DO YOU WANT TO ARREST HIM?

THERE'S A NOVEL THAT PUSHKIN WANTS TO PUBLISH
I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE A COMMOTION
NO, NOT NOW
WITH REGARDS TO PUSHKIN WE COULD FIND A GREAT NUMBER OF REASONS
I COULD THINK UP OF A FEW ...
FOR WHAT CHARGE?


"THE BRONZE HORSE-MAN"
BULGARIN ANALYSED THE "LITTLE PROBLEMS", THE STORY IS CALLED...
HMM... A POEM
IT DOESN'T SEEM THAT LONG
A
The main character is Evgenii,
A poor government official who dreams of a modest marriage with his beloved
A cold November,
Saint Petersburg.
Peter the Great created that city artificially from marsh lands like a miracle.
Standing next to the Neva river,
the splendorous beyond comparison golden city

In the Neva, surrounded by magnificence and marble decorations, a tragedy happened
A flood
The river Neva raged like a beast,
and swooped down on the city

Evgenii looked
Trembling Trembling
In the direction where his fiance's house should have been

There's nothing there!
Just water...
Water!
Except for one thing,
the Statue of Peter the Great looked down on the river from his bronze horse.

After the water dried away,
They had to tidy up the ruins and corpses.
But Evgenii was heartbroken because the flood had snatched his beloved away.
His reeking clothes were torn and children threw rocks at him.
He kept walking around the city as a madman.
He remembered...
that figure straddled on the bronze horse.
Until one day.

The man whose destiny was to create the city next to the river!
That terrible statue enveloped in the mist!!
This was that square.
It was the person who didn't quiver, with his bronze hand lifted in the darkness...
Weren't you the one that helped Russia to stand with the hind legs at the edge of the abyss!?
Oh powerful governor who pulls the strings of destiny
Oh dashing horse, where are you running off to?
HA HA HA
EVIL ARCHI-TECT OF THIS CITY!
BEWARE OF ME!

STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
WHY?
WHY DOES THE TSAR TAKE EVERYTHING AWAY?
The Bronze Horseman was chasing him.
All night long,
wherever the pitiful man ran to.

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S SANE!!
BANG
WHAT IS THIS!
PUSH-KIN!
AND YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY THAT THE TSAR IS A MONSTER THAT CRUSHES PEOPLE?
I'M THE ONE PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY,
HERE AND THERE...
BUT...
I'LL NEVER LET THIS POEM BE PUBLISHED.
AS LONG AS YOU'RE ALIVE,

I'LL ACT LIKE THE MAN IN THE POEM.
THE TSAR IS A MONSTER.
YOU WILL REALISE THE POWER OF THE TSAR!

FLOWER COMICS
flowersフラワーコミックス

ブロンズの天使

さいとうちほ
Chiho Saito Presents

ブロンズの天使
2
さいとうちほ

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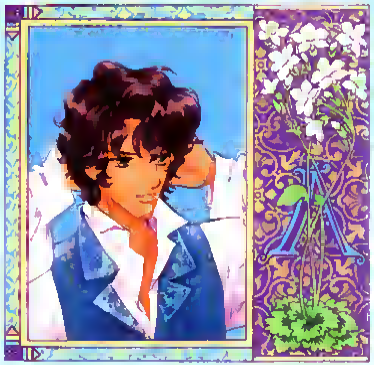

まっすぐに
ナターリアへと向かう
プーシキンの愛。
人才詩人の甘いささやきに
戸惑うナターリア。
運命に試されるかのように、
すれ違うふたりに、
ようやく祝福のときが訪れる。
だが、プーシキンはツァーリの
怒りを買ってしまい……。

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